Alberta

Freedom To Create. Spirit To Achieve.

Measuring Up

Progress Report on the Government of Alberta Business Plan

Annual Report
2008–2009

Government of Alberta

This is the report to Albertans on ***Budget 2008*** *The Right Plan for Today & Tomorrow*. It is a permanent public record of the dollars spent and the results achieved by the Government of Alberta for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

The Government of Alberta Annual Report consists of two parts:

- ***Measuring Up***, which reports on the progress that has been made towards achieving the government's goals.
- ***Consolidated Financial Statements***, which provide an overall accounting of the Government's revenue and spending and assets and liabilities. The *Consolidated Financial Statements* are published in a separate document.

Annual reports for each ministry are published in September and provide additional detailed information on performance and financial results.

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ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

The ***Measuring Up*** component of the government's Annual Report for the year ended March 31, 2009 was prepared under my direction on behalf of the government in accordance with the *Government Accountability Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as at June 24, 2009 with material economic or fiscal implications have been considered in the preparation of the Annual Report.

Original signed by Lloyd Snelgrove

Lloyd Snelgrove
President of Treasury Board

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INTRODUCTION

Measuring Up is a part of the Alberta government's commitment to be open and accountable to the people of Alberta. It endeavours to go beyond reporting financial information by answering the questions: what did the government achieve with the dollars that it spent; did the government actually do what it said it was going to do; and did the government make progress toward achieving its goals?

To answer these questions, *Measuring Up* reports on the progress toward achieving the ten government goals presented in the *2008-11 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan*. This is accomplished by comparing the actual results of performance measures and spending against the targets published in the government business plan and providing an explanation of significant performance variances. Performance targets for the measures under each goal are set so that they are challenging given the resources available to achieve the desired outcomes. In addition, *Measuring Up* contains progress reports on government strategies identified under each of the goals in the *2008-11 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan*.

Overall, reporting the results of the performance measures and the outcome of each of the government strategies helps the reader to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts that government policies, programs, services and strategies are having in progressing toward government goals.

Link to Ministries

In addition to the information presented in *Measuring Up*, more detailed performance information is reported in ministry annual reports published each fall. Performance information presented in ministry annual reports provides information on the progress toward ministry business plan goals. Ministry business plans and annual reports are closely linked to and support the government business plan and annual report.

What's New?

This year, the Office of the Auditor General provided an audit opinion on certain performance measures. Performance measures are labelled according to their audited or unaudited status where they appear in the text. Performance measures were selected for audit based on a combination of characteristics including:

- Best represented the goal and mandated initiatives;
- Had well established methodology and reporting of data;
- Had outcomes over which the government had a greater degree of influence; and
- Each goal had at least one audited performance measure.

The Auditor's Report provides an opinion, based on the findings of the audit, as to the reliability, understandability and comparability, but not relevance of the audited performance measures.

In addition, this year's *Measuring Up* report includes a signed Management's Responsibility for Reporting statement, providing assurance that the government's internal controls can be relied on to produce performance measurement data that is reliable, comparable and understandable.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the non-financial performance results reported in the Province's annual performance report *Measuring Up*, a component of the Province of Alberta Annual Report, rests with the government. *Measuring Up* is prepared by the Controller under the general direction of the Deputy Minister of Treasury Board as authorized by the President of the Treasury Board pursuant to Section 10 of the *Government Accountability Act*.

Under Section 10, the government must prepare and make public on or before June 30 of each year a consolidated annual report for the Province of Alberta for the fiscal year ended on the preceding March 31. The annual report must include a comparison of the actual performance results to the targets included in the government business plan and an explanation of any significant variances. As required by the *Government Accountability Act*, *Measuring Up* is published with the consolidated annual report of the Government of Alberta that forms part of the Public Accounts.

In order to meet government reporting requirements, the Controller obtains performance results relating to each ministry as necessary. Deputy heads in each ministry are responsible for maintaining management and internal control systems to ensure that the information provided by their ministry for presentation in *Measuring Up* is prepared in accordance with the following criteria:

- **Reliability** – Information agrees with the underlying data and with the sources used to prepare it.
- **Understandability and Comparability** – Actual results are presented clearly and consistently with the stated methodology and presented on the same basis as targets and prior years' information.
- **Completeness** – Performance measures and targets match those included in Budget 2008. Actual results are presented for all measures.

Measuring Up is reviewed by the Audit Committee, which is established under the *Auditor General Act*. The Audit Committee advises the Lieutenant Governor in Council on the scope and results of the Auditor General's audit of *Measuring Up*. The Auditor General of Alberta provides an independent report on the verification of completeness, reliability, comparability and understandability of 24 of the 61 performance measures published in *Measuring Up*, which are prepared by the government. The 24 audited performance measures are identified in *Measuring Up* with (audited) appearing next to the name of the performance measure. Annually, *Measuring Up* is tabled in the Legislature as a part of the Public Accounts and is referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts of the Legislative Assembly.

Original signed by Jay G. Ramotar

Jay G. Ramotar, P. Eng.
Deputy Minister of Treasury Board
June 30, 2009

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

I have audited performance measures identified as "audited" included in the "Performance Summaries" and "Results Analysis by Goal" sections of the *Government of Alberta's Measuring Up Annual Report 2008-2009*. These performance measures are the responsibility of the Government of Alberta and are prepared on its behalf by the Ministry of Treasury Board management in accordance with the following criteria:

- Reliability – Information agrees with the underlying data and with sources used to prepare it.
- Understandability and Comparability – Actual results are presented clearly and consistently with the stated methodology and presented on the same basis as targets and prior year's information.
- Completeness – performance measures and targets match those included in Budget 2008. Actual results are presented for all measures.

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the reliability, understandability, comparability and completeness of these performance measures based on my audit. My audit was not designed to assess the relevance of these performance measures to users.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the audited performance measures are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting these performance measures. An audit also includes assessing the criteria used and the significant judgments made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the performance measures.

In my opinion, the audited performance measures in the "Performance Summaries" and "Results Analysis by Goal" sections of the *Government of Alberta's Measuring Up Annual Report 2008-2009* present fairly, in all material respects, results in accordance with the criteria of reliability, understandability, comparability, and completeness as described above. However, my audit was not designed to assess the relevance of the audited performance measures to users.

Original Signed by Fred J. Dunn

FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
June 24, 2009

The official version of this Report of the Auditor General, and the information the Report covers, is in printed form.

READER'S GUIDE

The *Government Accountability Act* requires that the government publish a consolidated annual report for the Province of Alberta that includes a comparison of its performance results to the performance targets established in the three-year government business plan. The Act also requires an explanation of any significant variances between results and targets.

Measuring Up 2008-09 reports on the ten goals, 61 measures and numerous government strategies established in the *2008-11 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan*. Reporting on the measures and strategies provides information on the progress made toward goal achievement.

The Performance Summary beginning on page five has two sub-sections for each of the ten goals:

How do we measure up? – This section is a summary table containing targets, results and performance trend information.

What are we doing next to achieve this goal? – This section outlines future initiatives and the annual program and capital spending directed toward goal achievement as found in the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan*.

Following the Performance Summaries is the Results Analysis by Goal beginning on page 17. Each goal has four sections:

What the Goal Means – This section provides a brief description of the goal statement.

Expenses and Capital Plan Spending – This section includes three graphs that provide information pertaining to the government expense directed toward achieving the goal. The three graphs are Goal Expense, Percent of Total Expense and Capital Plan Spending. The goal expense information is derived from the Expense by Function amounts reported in the *2008-09 Consolidated Statement of Operations*. The Capital Plan Spending is aligned with the *2008-11 Capital Plan* spending that is directed at government-owned and supported infrastructure.

Progress Report on Strategies – This section provides a brief progress report on each of the strategies related to each goal. More detailed information will be available in the ministry annual reports published in September 2009.

Performance Measures – This section contains graphs representing the historical results, the most current results and the 2008-09 target level for each of the measures under each goal. Next to each goal is a discussion of the results of the measures, reasons for any significant variance from targets and actions that the government has taken to influence the results. A listing of the data sources and notes to the graphs can be found at the back of this document.

Further details on the measures, such as the methodology, any changes in the methodology from previous years, data sources and general factors that may impact results, are available online at www.alberta.ca.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARIES

GOAL ONE 1 Alberta will have a prosperous economy

How do we measure up?

Goal One Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Personal Disposable Income – see p.22 Current dollars per capita (inter-provincial rank).	Highest	Highest $37,189[r] (2008)	Improving
Labour Productivity – see p.22 Inter-provincial rank of real Gross Domestic Product in dollars per hour worked.	Highest	Highest $47.53 (2008)	Stable
Labour Force Participation Rate – see p.22 Inter-provincial rank of labour force participation.	Highest	Highest 74.7% (2008)	Improving

Goal One Performance Measures (unaudited)			
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – see p.23 Three-year average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (inter-provincial rank).	Highest	0.4% Lowest (2005-08)	Declining
Manufacturing and Service Industry Investment – see p.23 The value of new capital expenditures on construction and machinery and equipment in Alberta's manufacturing and services industry ($ billions and percentage change).	$19.4 billion (+7.0%)	$21.2 billion (+10.1%) (2008)	Improving Variable
Upstream Oil and Gas Industry Investment – see p.23 Annual capital expenditures in Alberta on exploration and development of oil, oil sands and gas resources.	$20 to $26 billion (2008)	$37.7 billion (2007)	Improving
Manufacturing and Service Exports – see p.24 The value of Alberta's international exports of manufactured goods and services in current dollars (percentage change).	$32.5 billion (+4.0%)	$32.0 billion[r] (+4.9%) (2008)	Improving Stable
Tourism Expenditures – see p.24 Total tourism expenditures in Alberta ($ billion).	$5.9 billion	$5.8 billion[r] (2008)	Improving
Sponsored Research at Alberta Universities – see p.24 Total sponsored research revenue attracted by Alberta universities.	$700.2 million	$792.9 million (2007-08)	Improving
Business Expenditures on Research and Development – see p.25 Alberta business expenditures on research and development.	$905 million	$1,220 million (2006)	Improving

r - Revised p - Preliminary e - Estimate

GOAL ONE 1

Alberta will have a prosperous economy

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	2.39	2.26	2.47	2.50
Capital Spending (millions)	66	87	64	63

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Implement the vision in the Provincial Energy Strategy;
- Implement the *Land-use Framework*, focusing initially on the development of regional plans for the South Saskatchewan and Lower Athabasca regions and establishing enabling legislation; as well as the development of improved, integrated information management systems to manage the status and use of land in the province;
- Implement the Roles and Mandates Framework for publicly funded organizations that support world class research and innovation in Alberta;
- Encourage technology commercialization and increase the Canadian venture capital invested in Alberta;
- Strengthen and diversify the agriculture sector by working with industry to increase the market value of differentiated and value-added agricultural products and by expanding into new markets and products;
- Implement the Foreign Qualification Recognition Action Plan to optimize the contribution and success of foreign-trained professionals in Alberta's labour force;
- Implement strategies to increase upgrading and refining capacity in Alberta, including the implementation of Bitumen Royalty In-kind;
- Enhance value-added activity, increase innovation and build a skilled workforce to improve the long-run sustainability of the Alberta's economy;
- Strengthen the competitiveness of the forestry sector by working with industry to identify options to improve the long-term viability of the sector; and
- Coordinate international missions to market opportunities available in Alberta.

GOAL TWO

2 Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning

How do we measure up?

Goal Two Performance Measures (audited)		2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Educational Attainment of Albertans: – see p.30			(2008)	
High school completion (age 25-34)		90% or higher	91%	Stable
Post-secondary completion (age 25-64)		60%	60%	Improving
Educational Attainment of Aboriginal Albertans: – see p.30			(2008)	
High school completion (age 25-34)		77%	74%	Stable
Post-secondary completion (age 25-64)		45%	42%	Stable
Lifelong Learning – see p.30			(2008-09)	
Public satisfaction that adult Albertans can access education or training.		79%	79%	Stable

Goal Two Performance Measures (unaudited)

Literacy and Numeracy – see p.31			(2007-08)	
Percentage of all students in Grade 9 who achieve the acceptable standard on Provincial Achievement Tests:	Language Arts	80%	77%	Stable
	Mathematics	70%	66%	Stable
High School Completion Rate – see p.31				
Percentage of students who complete high school within five years of entering Grade 10.		79%	79% (2007-08)	Improving
High School to Post-secondary Transition – see p.31				
Percentage of students entering post-secondary programs (including apprenticeship) within six years of entering Grade 10.		61%	61% (2007-08)	Improving
Employment Rate of Recent Alberta Advanced Education Graduates: – see p.32				
Post-secondary certificate or diploma***		n/a	n/a	No trend*
University degree***		n/a	n/a	No trend*
Journeyperson		95% or higher	94% (2008-09)	No trend*
Skill Development – see p.32				
Employer satisfaction with the skills and quality of work of advanced education system graduates.***		n/a	n/a	Stable*
Skills Development – see p.32			(2008-09)	
Percentage of participants in skills programs employed post-intervention.		80%	84%	Stable*
Physical Condition of Learning Facilities – see p.33				
(School Facilities – Physical Condition):	Good	73%	67%	Stable**
	Fair	25%	29%	
	Poor	2%	4%	
			(2008-09)	Stable**
(Post-secondary Facilities – Physical Condition):	Good	55%	60%	
	Fair	35%	32%	
	Poor	10%	8%	
			(2008-09)	

* Less than five years of data.
** Overall condition of facilities.
*** Data and target are n/a, as no survey was conducted in 2008-09.

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	9.41	9.36	9.16	9.14
Capital Spending (millions)	1,555	1,251	907	734

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Continue to increase broad-based supports and early intervention initiatives for at-risk children to improve their learning outcomes;
- Develop a policy framework to guide implementation of a long-term vision for Kindergarten to Grade 12 education in Alberta that focuses on opportunity, fairness, citizenship, choice and diversity;
- Continue to implement the Roles and Mandates Framework for the advanced education system; and
- Continue to increase student participation and completion rates in health, math, science and career and technology studies courses to support economic diversification and build the knowledge economy.

GOAL THREE 3 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained

How do we measure up?

Goal Three Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
River Water Quality Index – see p.37 Evaluates the water quality of six major Alberta rivers at key sites, based on monthly data on four groups of variables (metals, bacteria, nutrients and pesticides) which are combined to provide an indication of overall water quality.	Five out of six river systems have good to excellent water quality	Five out of six river systems had good to excellent water quality (2007-08)	No trend
Municipal Solid Waste to Landfills – see p.37 Measures Alberta's progress towards reducing the amount of municipal solid waste disposed in landfills as measured in kilograms of waste per capita.	800 kg per capita	839 kg per capita (2008)	Declining

Goal Three Performance Measures (unaudited)

Air Quality Index – see p.37 Evaluates the quality of Alberta's air based on five major pollutants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulphur dioxide, and fine particulate matter – $PM_{2.5}$	Good air quality days 97% of the time	Good air quality days 97% of the time (2008)	Stable
Drinking Water Safety Indicator – see p.38 Evaluates performance of facilities delivering safe drinking water.			
Facility Design Standards – percentage of facilities meeting the newest (1997 or 2006) standards, as applicable.	87%	87% (2008-09)	Improving
Facility Operational Requirements – number of incidents that could lead to water quality incidents where regulatory requirements have not been met.	25	26 (2008)	Improving
Water Quality – number of water quality incidents.	38	37 (2008)	Improving
Effective Water Management Infrastructure – see p.39 Physical condition of provincially-owned water management infrastructure:			
Good	93%	94.9%	Stable**
Fair	7%	4.8%	
Poor	0%	0.3% (2008-09)	

* Less than five years of data.
** Overall condition of facilities.

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	0.41	0.45	0.40	0.42
Capital Spending (millions)	150	433	563	773

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Support research on new oil sands extraction processes that use less energy, less water, reduce tailings ponds, improve land reclamation and support the Oil Sands Strategic Plan;
- Implement carbon capture and storage research and initiate large-scale demonstration projects through the Carbon Capture and Storage initiative;
- Review the regulatory framework for energy activities in Alberta to ensure efficient and streamlined delivery of provincial resource and environmental management strategies; and
- Implement the *Climate Change Strategy* including conservation, energy efficiency and adaptation initiatives.

GOAL FOUR

4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

How do we measure up?

Goal Four Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Alberta's Credit Rating – see p.44 Blended credit rating for domestic debt.	AAA	AAA (2009)	Stable
Albertans' Satisfaction with Access to Services and Information – see p.44 Percentage of Albertans surveyed who are satisfied with access to Government of Alberta services and information.	80%	69% (2008-09)	No trend*

Goal Four Performance Measures (unaudited)			
Physical Condition of Government-owned and Operated Facilities: – see p.44			
Good	***	63%	
Fair		34%	No trend* **
Poor		3%	
		(2008-09)	
Tax Load – see p.45 Total provincial and municipal tax load as a percentage of the Canadian average (inter-provincial rank).	Lowest among the provinces	Lowest among the provinces (2008-09)	Stable

* Less than five years of data.

** Overall condition of buildings.

*** There was a significant change to the methodology used to calculate this measure in 2008-09. As a result, data is no longer comparable to either the target or previous results. See Note 28 in the Sources and Notes on page 84 and the detailed methodology for additional explanation.

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	1.77	1.80	1.99	2.10
Capital Spending (millions)	387	704	482	371

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Review existing economic and fiscal policy and develop direction, principles, priorities and tools to effectively and efficiently address medium-term investment economic and fiscal issues;
- Adopt standard facility designs and best practices to increase the efficiency of health and education infrastructure design and construction;
- Continue to implement a single enterprise approach to information technology development and operations for the Government of Alberta; and
- Implement the 20-year Capital Plan to address Alberta's immediate and long-term growth needs and ensure the maintenance of existing infrastructure, explore options to fund capital projects and recommend strategies to reduce infrastructure costs.

5 Albertans will be healthy

How do we measure up?

Goal Five Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Ease of Access to Services – see p.50			
Rating as easy or very easy:			
Physician Services	80%	74%	Stable
Hospital Services	73%	68% (2009)	Stable
Public Rating of Health System Overall – see p.50			
Rating as excellent or good.	70%	63% (2009)	Improving

Goal Five Performance Measures (unaudited)

Life Expectancy at Birth – see p.50			
Years of life for females.	83.0 years	82.9 years	Stable
Years of life for males.	78.0 years	78.2 years (2008)	Stable
Self-reported Health Status – see p.51			
Rating as excellent, very good or good (18-64 years).	90%	89%	Improving
Rating as excellent, very good or good (65 years and over).	80%	84% (2009)	Variable
Participation in Healthy Behaviour – see p.51			
Exercise: Percent of Albertans age 12 and over who are active or moderately active.	60%	53%	Stable*
Healthy Weight: Percent of Albertans age 18 and over with acceptable body mass index (BMIs 18.5 to 24.9).	49%	43%	Declining*
Healthy Eating: Percent of Albertans age 12 and over who eat at least five servings of fruit and vegetables each day.	42%	39% (2007)	Improving*
Health Facilities - Physical Condition: – see p.52			
Good	67%	72%	
Fair	26%	26%	Variable**
Poor	7%	2% (2008-09)	

* Less than five years of data. *2008 results were not available at time of publication; therefore, latest available data is 2007 compared to 2008-09 targets.*

** Overall condition of facilities.

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	13.10	13.18	14.78	15.66
Capital Spending (millions)	948	352	1,229	1,320

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Implement *Vision 2020* to optimize health service delivery by increasing efficiency, improving access and guiding capital planning;
- Finalize and implement the *Pharmaceutical Strategy* to improve the drug approval process, establish a common Alberta Drug Benefit Program and a more sustainable and equitable program;
- Improve the quality of care for Albertans by offering more alternatives for long-term care through the framework established in the *Continuing Care Strategy;*
- Continue to ensure Alberta has the health care professionals we need to meet future demand;
- Implement a strengthened governance and accountability framework with all health providers;
- Enhance the continuum of community-based and client-centered services for mental health and addictions, including children's mental health in support of the Safe Communities Initiative; and
- Within the *Continuing Care Strategy*, improve the choice and availability of continuing care accommodations.

GOAL SIX **6** **Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for**

How do we measure up?

Goal Six Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Social and Emotional Development – see p.57			
Percentage of Alberta children demonstrating:			
Healthy social development	Maintain or improve Alberta's result relative to the national average	Alberta: 85.1% Canada: 83.8% (2006-07)	Stable*
Healthy emotional development		Alberta: 85.6% Canada: 85.7% (2006-07)	Stable*
Support for Albertans with Severe Disabilities – see p.57			
Percentage of AISH clients who report that personal benefits help them live more independently.	80%	77%	Stable*
Affordable Housing Units – see p.58			
Number of affordable housing units developed with support from provincial funding.	2,200	2,955	No trend*

Goal Six Performance Measures (unaudited)

Well-being of Children – see p.58			
Percentage of children living in families with incomes at or above the Market Basket Measure low-income thresholds (inter-provincial rank).	Among the top three provinces	Highest 91.3% (2006)	Stable
Support for Albertans with Low Incomes – see p.58			
Percentage of Alberta's Income Support clients receiving health benefits coverage in addition to core benefits.	Within +/-5 percentage points of the previous year's result (85.1%)	84.5% (2008-09)	Stable*
Economic Status of Albertans – see p.59			
Percentage of Albertans living at or above the Market Basket Measure low-income thresholds (inter-provincial rank).	Among the top three provinces	Highest 92.2% (2006)	Stable
Parenting Skills – see p.59			
Percentage of Alberta children, age 0-5, whose parents are interacting positively with them.	Maintain or improve Alberta's result relative to the national average	Alberta: 92.4% Canada: 91.4% (2006-07)	Stable
Support for Albertans with Developmental Disabilities (biennial survey) – see p.59			
Satisfaction, of families/guardians of adults with developmental disabilities, with Persons with Developmental Disabilities-funded services.	85%	85.3% (2008-09)	Stable
Support for Families with Low Income with Children (biennial survey) – see p.60			
Percentage of Alberta Child Health Benefit parents who agree they are able to obtain health services they would not otherwise have been able to get for their children.	90%	93% (2008-09)	Improving*
Support for Albertans with Low Income who Need Temporary Help – see p.60			
Percentage of participants employed after leaving Income Support.	70%	69% (2008-09)	Variable*
Seniors' Average Total Income – see p.60			
Difference between Alberta seniors' average total income and the national average for seniors' average total income.	Exceed the national average	+17.6% (2006)	Improving

* Less than five years of data.

Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	4.09	4.21	4.19	4.51
Capital Spending (millions)	449	344	239	468

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Implement strategies to successfully engage the public in a recruitment campaign to increase the number of foster parents and kinship caregivers;
- Improve access to existing programs for high-risk youth and Albertans affected by family violence, maintaining an emphasis on expanding supports for Aboriginal people and immigrants;
- Develop 11,000 affordable housing units by 2012;
- Implement the 10-year Plan to address homelessness; and
- Review programs and services for Albertans most in need to ensure they are citizen-centred, aligned and integrated.

GOAL SEVEN

7 Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

How do we measure up?

Goal Seven Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood – see p.66 The percentage of Albertans who feel reasonably safe to very safe walking alone in their area after dark.	82%	73% (2008-09)	Stable
Workplace Lost-time Claim Rate – see p.66 Number of lost-time claims per 100 person-years worked.	1.70	1.88 (2008)	Improving
Effectiveness of Human Rights Protection – see p.66 Percentage of adult Albertans who believe human rights are well protected in Alberta.	89%	91.1% (2008-09)	Stable

Goal Seven Performance Measures (unaudited)

Property Crime Rate – see p.67 Alberta's property crime rate per 100,000 population, as reported by police.	Lower than or equal to the national rate (3,320)	4,259 (2007)	Improving
Violent Crime Rate – see p.67 Alberta's violent crime rate per 100,000 population, as reported by police.	Lower than or equal to the national rate (930)	1,104 (2007)	Stable
Work Stoppages – see p.67 Percentage of collective bargaining agreements settled without a work stoppage (strike or lockout).	98%	98% (2008-09)	Stable

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	1.41	1.39	1.43	1.44
Capital Spending (millions)	87	422	308	185

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Continue the Safe Communities initiative including developing a long-term, comprehensive crime reduction and prevention strategy which incorporates initiatives to address criminal activities by gangs;
- Continue to enhance the capacity of the prosecution service to effectively prosecute serious and violent crime, in part, by adding prosecution and support staff;
- Develop a law enforcement framework to more effectively and efficiently coordinate enforcement activities;
- Continue to increase the number of police officers in the province to reach the 2008-11 target of 300 additional police officers;
- Develop and implement initiatives to dismantle and disrupt organized crime activity; and
- Develop options to introduce a supplemental pension plan for Albertans currently not covered by pension plans and encourage retirement savings.

GOAL EIGHT

8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

How do we measure up?

Goal Eight Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Visitor Satisfaction with Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas – see p.71 Visitor satisfaction with experiences at provincial parks and recreation areas.	91%	93.3% (2008-09)	Improving
Participation in Arts Activities or Events – see p.71 Participation in arts activities or events by adult Albertans.	89%	91.0% (2008-09)	Stable
Visitor Satisfaction with Provincial Historic Sites, Museums and Interpretive Centres – see p.71 Visitor satisfaction with experiences at provincial historic sites, museums and interpretive centres.	98%	99.0% (2008-09)	Stable

Goal Eight Performance Measures (unaudited)			
Participation in Sport and Recreation – see p.72 Participation in sport and recreational activities by adult Albertans.	83%	85.6% (2008-09)	Stable
Level of Community Volunteerism – see p.72 Level of community volunteerism by adult Albertans.	67%	81.4% (2008-09)	Improving
Public Library Use – see p.72 Usage of public library services by adult Albertans.	53%	48.0% (2008-09)	Stable

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	0.62	0.37	0.36	0.36
Capital Spending (millions)	375	80	65	115

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Build a culturally vibrant province by working with the Premier's Council on Arts and Culture to implement *The Spirit of Alberta*, Alberta's cultural policy;
- Implement Alberta's *Plan for Parks* to ensure Alberta's parks remain protected yet accessible and support Alberta's *Land-use Framework*; and
- Work in partnership with the nonprofit/voluntary sector to strengthen both sector capacity and our communities.

GOAL NINE

9 Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities

How do we measure up?

Goal Nine Performance Measures (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Aboriginal Affairs – see p.76			
Public approval rating on Aboriginal issues compared to the average of the four nearest provinces.	Higher than the average of the four nearest provinces (BC, SK, MB, ON)	4% higher (2008)	Variable
Albertans' Satisfaction with their Local Governments – see p.76			
Percentage satisfied.	80%	73% (2008-09)	Stable

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	1.00	1.15	1.79	1.88
Capital Spending (millions)	459	530	1,150	1,237

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Coordinate the implementation of the Oil Sands Strategic Plan and the Fort McMurray Community Development Plan;
- Conclude a new long-term governance and funding arrangement with and for the Métis Settlements that is focused on effective governance, enhanced accountability and sustainability;
- Work in partnership with the federal and other provincial governments and Aboriginal communities to support Aboriginal economic and labour force development, which includes increasing the total off-reserve labour force of Alberta's First Nations, Métis and Inuit to 74,000 by 2010; and
- Work with municipalities to complete metropolitan plans for the Calgary and Capital regions and promote regional collaboration and planning to support implementation of the *Land-use Framework*.

GOAL TEN **10** **Alberta will have effective and efficient transportation infrastructure**

How do we measure up?

Goal Ten Performance Measure (audited)	2008-09 Targets	Current Results	Performance Trend
Physical Condition of Provincial Highways – see p.79			
Physical condition of pavement:			
Good	58.7%	58.6%	
Fair	25.5%	26.3%	Declining**
Poor	15.8%	15.1%	
		(2008-09)	

** Overall condition of highways.

What are we doing next to achieve this goal?

(For additional information see the *2009-12 Government of Alberta Strategic Business Plan.*)

Goal Expense and Capital Plan Spending	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Target	2011-12 Target
Goal Expense (billions)	2.44	2.20	1.88	2.12
Capital Spending (millions)	3,118	2,976	2,950	2,752

In addition to ongoing government policies, programs and services, Alberta will implement the following Mandated Initiatives:

- Work within the fiscal context to optimize the value of the provincial investment in highway repaving and bridge repair; and
- Implement innovative approaches to reduce the environmental impact of Alberta's transportation system, including the Green Transit Incentives Program (Green Trip) to support new public transit, reduce the number of vehicles on the road and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

RESULTS ANALYSIS BY GOAL

GOAL ONE **1** **Alberta will have a prosperous economy**

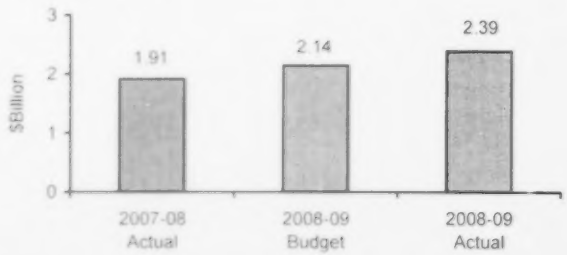
What the Goal Means

Sustainable economic growth and prosperity are essential elements in creating opportunity and maintaining Albertans' high overall quality of life. Although the province has not been immune to external economic forces over the past year, it has remained much more robust than many other jurisdictions and is poised for a quick recovery supported by the strength of its people and industry. Innovation, diversification and the responsible development and use of our natural resources all play a key role in the long-term growth and sustainability of Alberta's economy. Maintaining strong economic fundamentals and encouraging growth in international exports and tourism attracts investment and positions the province for a strong recovery in an uncertain global economic environment. Improvement in the skills and productivity of the workforce and support for the integration of skilled immigrants will help to address the changing needs of the labour market and sustain Alberta's competitive knowledge base. Supporting the capital planning process and administering a variety of long-term grant programs for municipalities allows for the management of urban and rural infrastructure growth pressures. Wise use of the province's land, forests and other natural resources sustains them for future generations while supporting economic development.

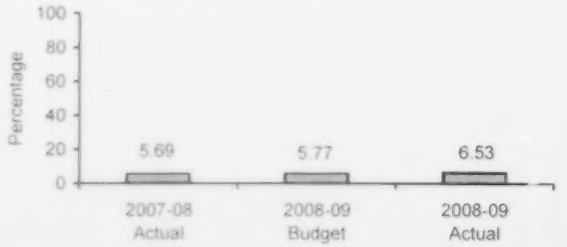
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $2,394.0 million toward support of a diversified and prosperous economy and toward the promotion of Alberta's international competitiveness.

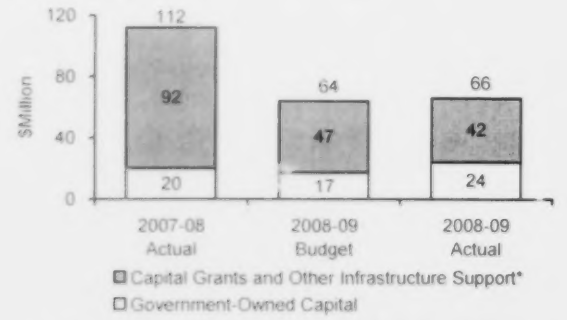
Goal One Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

RESULTS ANALYSIS BY GOAL

GOAL ONE 1

Alberta will have a prosperous economy

What the Goal Means

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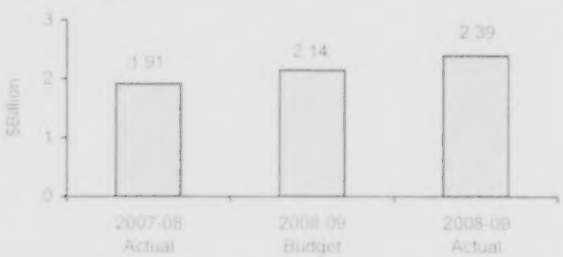
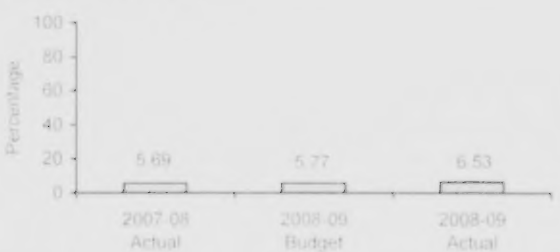
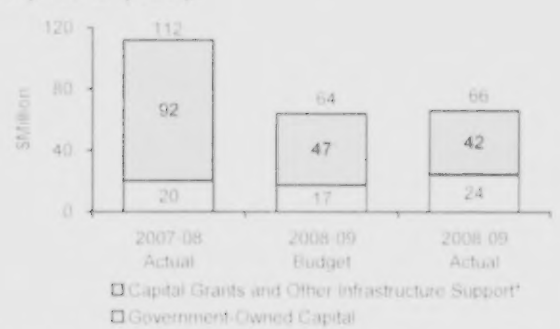


Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are reported on the Cash Basis.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Develop a comprehensive provincial energy strategy. (Energy)	**The Provincial Energy Strategy was released on December 11, 2008** outlining a vision and comprehensive action plan for Alberta to be a global energy leader that is recognized as a responsible world-class energy supplier, an innovator in the use of improved technologies, a sophisticated energy consumer and responsible environmental citizen. Three desired outcomes are critical to realizing this vision: clean energy production, wise energy use and sustained economic prosperity. Taking the necessary actions to meet these goals will put Alberta on a path of sustainable prosperity that will allow the province to play a significant, proactive role in the future and demonstrate leadership by exerting a positive influence on the world stage.
Address competing use of land through planning and decision-making directed by the completion and implementation of the *Land-use Framework*. (This priority integrates with the cumulative effects management strategic priority under Goal 3.) (Sustainable Resource Development)	**The government publicly released Alberta's new *Land-use Framework*** setting out a cumulative effects approach to better managing Alberta's public and private lands and natural resources. The framework established seven land-use regions with a requirement to develop regional plans for each. These regional plans will manage the impacts of development on air, land, water and biodiversity. The Lower Athabasca Regional Advisory Council was the first to be established and is expected to provide advice on land use in Alberta's northeast from the town of Bonnyville to Alberta's northern border including Fort McMurray, Cold Lake and Lac La Biche by the end of 2009. All seven councils are expected to make their recommendations on regional land use to the Alberta government by 2012. Other significant milestones in 2008-09 included the development of a draft capital region plan for Edmonton and its neighbouring communities and establishing the Land-use Secretariat to implement Alberta's *Land-use Framework*.
Implement aggressive actions to protect the health of Alberta's forests, particularly from a mountain pine beetle infestation. (Sustainable Resource Development)	The objectives of the Mountain Pine Beetle Program are to minimize the spread of beetles north and south along the Eastern Slopes and to prevent beetles from spreading east in the boreal forest. **During 2008-09, $59.8 million was spent on combating the spread of the Mountain Pine Beetle in the province**. The money was used to remove beetle-killed and at-risk trees and to detect any further infestations. The majority of the 2008 aerial survey program was completed by the end of August 2008 and surveys indicated an increasing number of trees were attacked in the Southern Rockies, Smoky and Peace areas. Central parts of the province reflected the effects of the cold winter weather in 2007-08, which limited infestation in the Woodlands and Lesser Slave areas. **The government worked with industry to amend forest management plans and concentrate harvesting in at-risk forests**. Strategies were employed to restore a more natural age-class balance in the province's pine forest, which will be more resilient to wildfires, disease and insects. The government provided seven communities with $819,000 to survey and control beetle infestations within their jurisdictions. About 15 per cent of the province's total forest is at risk from the mountain pine beetle, thus affecting the viability of the province's forest industry and the sustainability of communities, watersheds, crucial wildlife habitat, and recreational areas and parks.
Develop and implement a framework that defines roles and mandates for publicly funded organizations that support world class research and innovation in Alberta. (Advanced Education and Technology)	**The Roles and Mandates Framework for Alberta's Provincially Funded Research and Innovation System was developed in consultation with stakeholders to assist Alberta researchers and entrepreneurs to better realize their potential as creators of world-class discoveries and products**. By consolidating and reorganizing provincially funded research and innovation organizations, existing entities will be merged into five new entities consisting of one advisory body and four board-governed provincial corporations. They will facilitate strategic research and innovation in support of government priorities and contribute to a diversified and sustainable economy.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Encourage technology commercialization and increase the Canadian venture capital invested in Alberta, in part by establishing the Alberta Enterprise Fund. The Alberta Enterprise Fund will be contained within the Alberta Enterprise Corporation. (Advanced Education and Technology)	**The government released Alberta's Action Plan for Bringing Technology to Market to assist the province in becoming one of the world's preferred destinations to turn ideas into products and services.** A number of initiatives were developed to help create a culture of entrepreneurship that supports and encourages the marketability of new technology and creates an environment that fosters investment and stimulates growth in Alberta's high technology sectors. To support these initiatives, **the Alberta Enterprise Corporation was established with $100 million to attract and strengthen venture capital in Alberta.**
Strengthen and diversify the agriculture sector by working with industry to increase the market value of differentiated and value-added agricultural products and by expanding into new markets and products. Develop new strategies focused on capacity building and sustainability in rural Alberta. (Agriculture and Rural Development)	**The Alberta Livestock and Meat Strategy was announced in June 2008 to stabilize and strengthen Alberta's livestock industry** by redirecting government funds, resources and programs to help revitalize the sector, enhance the value chain and make the necessary changes to build a competitive livestock industry. **The *Animal Health Act* which came into effect in January 2009 enhances existing regulations relating to the traceability, accountability and identification of livestock** and their associated premises. The Act also provides for improved notification and reporting of diseases. **Initiatives and strategies were developed to advance agricultural and rural development through the Federal Community Development Trust** over the next two and a half years through a $15 million program focusing on rural community adaptation and a new $9 million program to enhance rural connectivity through increased access to high speed broadband in rural Alberta.
Continue to work on attracting, retaining and developing a skilled and productive workforce as well as safe and high-performing workplaces in Alberta. Look to alternative labour force attraction, development and retention strategies for mature workers, under-represented groups and Aboriginal people. This will include increasing the off-reserve labour force of Alberta's First Nation, Métis and Inuit to 74,000 by 2010. (Employment and Immigration)	**Government facilitated the development and release of three sector-led industry workforce strategies** – nonprofit, forest and supply chain logistics. In addition, government continues to work with the energy, construction, manufacturing, retail, tourism and hospitality sectors to enable organizations to implement their workforce strategies. Training and support was provided to Alberta's Aboriginal people in areas such as: entrepreneurship symposia for youth, health-care aides, heavy equipment operators, environmental monitoring, construction and petroleum land administration. This, along with other labour market programs and services helped increase Alberta's First Nation, Métis and Inuit off-reserve labour force to 72,800 at the end of 2008. **Alberta also participated in the pan-Canadian negotiation of amendments to enhance the labour mobility provisions of the Agreement on Internal Trade**, working to identify barriers to full labour mobility, develop processes to reduce and eliminate barriers and identify situations where exceptions to full labour mobility are required to protect the Alberta public.
To attract workers to the province, increase the number of international immigrants and temporary foreign workers to Alberta to 50,000 by the end of 2009, as well as double the number of workers entering the Provincial Nominee Program to 3,000. In addition to attracting workers to Alberta, help newcomers to Alberta to integrate and settle into the community by increasing the support services provided to them. (Employment and Immigration)	**Government released and began implementing a Foreign Qualification Recognition Plan for Alberta to strengthen, target and coordinate the assessment and recognition of foreign earned credentials and work experience.** Alberta attracted over 39,000 temporary foreign workers and over 24,000 new immigrants for a total of over 63,000 individuals at the end of 2008. In addition, the target for the number of provincial nomination certificates issued under the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program was exceeded when over 3,300 certificates were sent to the federal government, nominating over 8,400 people for expediting processing of their permanent resident applications. A Small Centre Toolbox was distributed in partnership with Citizenship and Immigration Canada to municipalities across the province. This toolbox was designed for smaller communities to create their own immigration strategies to attract, settle and retain immigrants.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Implement strategies **to increase upgrading and refining capacity in Alberta**, including the implementation of Bitumen Royalty In-kind, which refers to the Crown receiving resources (royalty in-kind), in lieu of monetary remuneration. (Energy)	**Government explored the use of Bitumen Royalty In-kind (BRIK) with plans to allocate the Crown's royalty proceeds to specific projects that add value within Alberta** and help to achieve market diversification through the further development of local upgrading and refining capacity within the province. A review committee received expressions of interest from a number of industry stakeholders proposing projects that would utilize the province's BRIK volumes in specific value-added capacities and is in the process formulating recommendations for implementation.
Enhance value-added activity, increase innovation and **improve the long run sustainability of Alberta's economy** through developing and implementing policies, initiatives and tools to help Alberta businesses to improve their productivity and global competitiveness. Measures will include reducing the regulatory burden on business by reducing overlap; simplifying compliance requirements and revising or eliminating regulations; and also by introducing a ten per cent tax credit to stimulate private sector scientific research and experimental development in Alberta. (Finance and Enterprise)	**Government assisted industry in further investing in value-added activity in the energy sector** through policies to facilitate development in Alberta's oil sands and encourage the diversification of the provincial economy. A key initiative in this area was the exploration of BRIK. Additional productivity improvement and enhancement initiatives were also developed in collaboration with other governments, Alberta industry and economic development agencies. The Regulatory Review Secretariat provided oversight in the development of an analytical framework focused on reducing the regulatory burden borne by business and citizens. Compliance in meeting the mutual recognition and reconciliation obligations of internal trade agreements aimed at streamlining regulations was monitored. In its 2008 budget, **Alberta announced that it was introducing a research and development tax credit** of ten per cent on up to $4,000,000 of eligible annual expenditures incurred by a corporation in Alberta after 2008. The credit is refundable for all companies.
Coordinate international missions to **market Alberta as an immigration destination**. (International and Intergovernmental Relations)	**In 2008-09, four international missions were undertaken that focused on immigration and labour attraction**. Two missions had a strong emphasis on the intergovernmental aspects of immigration and skilled worker attraction in key markets such as Korea and China (June 2008), as well as India and the United Kingdom (January 2009). Two missions focused on labour attraction: Germany and the United Kingdom (June to July 2008) and the Philippines, South Korea, China and Australia (September to October 2008). Alberta's international offices played a key role in the coordination of the missions by providing program support.
Strengthen the competitiveness of the forestry sector by working with industry to identify options to improve the long-term viability of the sector. (Sustainable Resource Development)	**The Forest Industry Sustainability Committee submitted its final report in August 2008 outlining 11 recommendations for improving the competitive position of Alberta's forest industry**. The government is currently working on a coordinated response to these recommendations. It has also been working with the forest industry to identify opportunities for funding through the Federal Community Development Trust to assist communities and workers experiencing economic hardship caused by the current volatility in global financial and commodity markets.

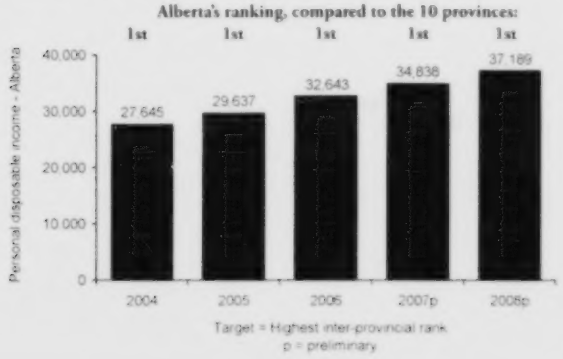
Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Continue to **partner with the agricultural industry to enhance domestic and international market access for Alberta products**. Encourage industry to become more competitive by providing better access to resources for producers of primary and value-added products, with a specific focus on both capital and manpower. (Agriculture and Rural Development)	Offered by the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation, **the Cattle Price Insurance Program initiative was implemented with the aim of providing an effective risk management tool for participating Alberta cattle producers** through the use of a reserve fund to help mitigate traditional sources of industry risk. **The *Marketing of Agricultural Products Amendment Act* clarifies regulatory powers and streamlines the review and appeals process**. Brought about in response to industry consultations, the revised Act seeks to aid producers in effectively responding to changes in their industry's business environment. **The *Feeder Associations Guarantee Act* enables more effective financial services for producer-driven supply chains** so they can successfully advance their business and market their products through expanding loan program eligibility and coverage, the provision for additional risk mitigation and protection measures and a better cash flow structure for associations. **International cooperation and enhanced market access was advanced** through a tentative agreement for the sale of Canadian beef to Hong Kong and three global missions were undertaken as a part of the Agriculture Workforce Strategy to aid Alberta food processors in attracting 1,300 foreign workers.
With our partners, **enable the agriculture industry to innovate, build competitive capacity and create diversified business opportunities** by meeting consumer and public expectations around the environment. (Agriculture and Rural Development)	**An outline of the Environmental Goods and Services Framework is being finalized** to identify the necessary tools and processes for market-based incentives to achieve certification and innovation. Environmental programming was supported through Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture funding within 46 municipalities and 14 agricultural organizations. **The Institute for Agriculture, Forestry and the Environment was created** and tasked with increasing environmentally sound practices in renewable resource sectors through market-based approaches that will help brand Alberta as an environmental leader and innovator.
Market Alberta as an attractive travel destination and **strengthen efforts to facilitate the development of tourism products and new travel destinations in both urban and rural Alberta**. Generate activity and investment in the cultural industries, including film and television, sound recording and book and magazine publishing, through targeted financial support. In addition, align industry and government efforts and explore options for a new funding model to better support the sustainability of Alberta's film and television industries. (Tourism, Parks and Recreation; Culture and Community Spirit)	**The transition of Travel Alberta into a legislated corporation resulted in its establishment as the tourism marketing organization for the province, which will enable enhanced marketing initiatives**. Accomplishments for 2008-09 included promoting tourism opportunities in conjunction with the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, partnering to increase Alberta air access from international markets and promoting festivals and events. The fourth annual Tourism Investment Symposium and a first annual Tourism Business Development Forum were held to share information on business development related topics with tourism operators and promote tourism opportunities. **Consultations were held with representatives of the cultural industries to examine best practices in other jurisdictions, align industry and government efforts and explore options for new funding models**. In addition, existing Alberta Film Development Program guidelines were revised to support the long-term sustainability and growth of Alberta's film, television and digital media sector and to help attract and support the production of dramatic series.

Performance Measures

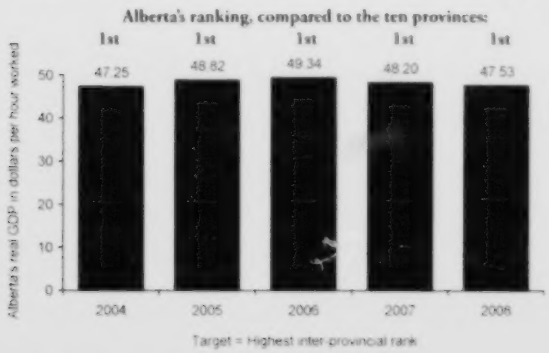
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Personal Disposable Income (audited)(1)
Current dollars per capita (inter-provincial rank).



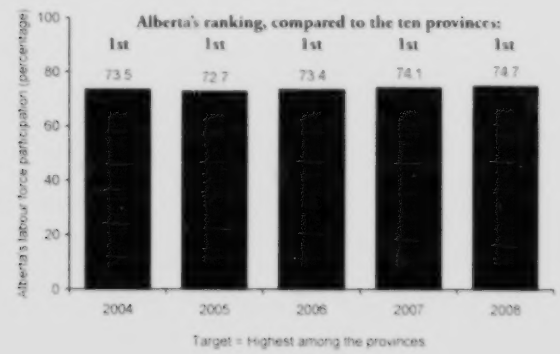
- At $37,189, **Alberta met the target of highest average personal disposable income per capita of any province in 2008**, up from $34,838 in 2007 and 30 per cent higher than the Canadian average of $28,591.
- Alberta has had the highest personal disposal income per capita in Canada since 2001.
- Personal disposable income per capita measures income remaining after personal direct taxes and transfers to government and is an important measure of the economic well-being of individuals.
- Alberta had the strongest employment growth and lowest unemployment rate among the provinces, which led to high growth in average weekly earnings and consequently labour income. In addition both net farm income and non-farm incorporated business grew rapidly.

Labour Productivity (audited)(2)
Inter-provincial rank of real Gross Domestic Product in dollars per hour worked.



- **Even with the recent declines, Alberta continued to have the highest productivity level of all the provinces as labour productivity per hour worked was $47.53 in 2008. Canada's productivity level was $40.86 per hour.**
- Alberta's decline in labour productivity was driven mainly by the energy and construction sectors, but also by manufacturing and finance. At the same time, strong growth was registered for the agriculture, accommodation and food services and wholesale trade sectors.
- Through the *Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce* strategy, the government contributed to the province's ability to develop and retain a skilled and productive workforce.

Labour Force Participation Rate (audited)(3)
Inter-provincial rank of labour force participation.



- **In 2008, the labour force participation rate for Alberta was 74.7 per cent, which ranked the highest in Canada and as such met the target for this performance measure**. By comparison, the Canadian rate was 67.8 per cent for the same year, whereas the lowest rate in the country was 59.5 per cent.
- The labour force participation rate represents the percentage of the working-age population that is either employed or actively seeking employment (i.e., unemployed). The inter-provincial rank of labour force participation is an indicator of Alberta's effectiveness in addressing labour force needs, relative to that of other provinces.
- The Alberta government contributed to this result by working to address issues related to labour force development, labour shortages, skills deficits, immigration and labour force planning and productivity.

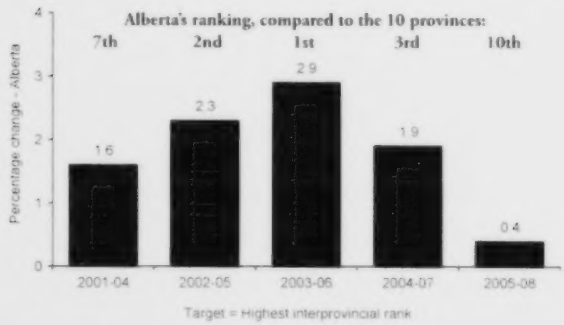
The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (unaudited)(4)

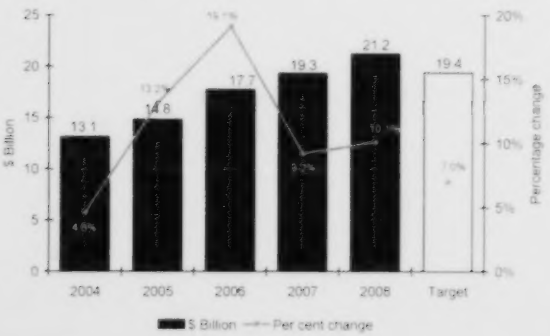
Three-year average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (inter-provincial rank).



- The target of highest interprovincial real GDP per capita growth rate was not met in 2005-08. **Strong population growth and the economic events beginning in 2008 combined to have a significantly negative impact on Alberta's real GDP per capita. Over the 2005-08 period, real GDP per capita grew by a compounded average of just 0.4 per cent per year.**
- Fluctuations in energy prices and declining investment in the energy and construction sectors led to considerable downward pressure to make Alberta's growth rate tenth among the provinces and 0.6 percentage points below the Canadian average for 2005-08.
- In terms of aggregate real GDP, Alberta's compound average growth rate was 2.9 per cent, the third highest among provinces. The per capita results were adversely impacted by downward pressure from continued population growth.

Manufacturing and Service Industry Investment (unaudited)(5)

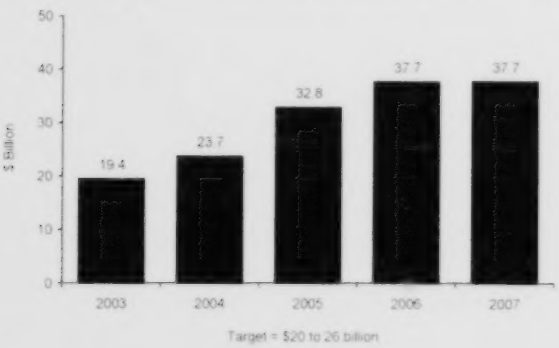
The value of new capital expenditures on construction and machinery and equipment in Alberta's manufacturing and services industry ($ billions and % change).



- **The 2008-09 target of a seven per cent increase in manufacturing and service industry investment was exceeded with investment of $21.2 billion, representing a 10.1 per cent increase from 2007-08.**
- The entire increase in the dollar value of investment between 2007-08 and 2008-09 was accounted for by the pipeline and electricity sectors as capacity constraints in these two sectors caused very strong investment growth.
- An additional contribution to the strong growth came about as a result of the weak American dollar which made machinery and equipment imported from the U.S. more affordable and encouraged strong investment activity in Alberta.

Upstream Oil and Gas Industry Investment (unaudited)(6)

Annual capital expenditures in Alberta on exploration and development of oil, oil sands and gas resources.



- **At $37.7 billion, total upstream oil and gas industry investment significantly exceeded the target of $15 billion.**
- While conventional oil and gas investment declined by 18 per cent from the record-high $25.4 billion in 2006 to $20.9 billion in 2007, this result was offset by increased investment in the oil sands achieving an annual record of $16.8 billion in 2007, a 38 per cent increase from the 2006 level. The increase in investment in the oil sands sector was primarily driven by an increase in capital expenditures on oil sands upgraders.
- Government influences industry's investment decisions through its royalty and tax regimes, approval processes, land and market access, the regulatory environment, and by maintaining a fiscal regime that is intended to encourage development of Alberta's energy resources.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

GOAL ONE

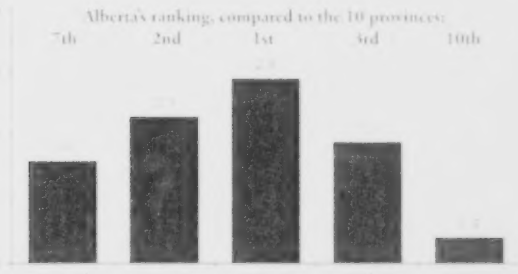
Alberta will have a prosperous economy

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (unaudited)

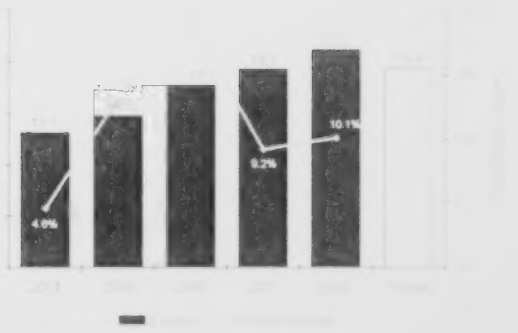
Three-year average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (provincial rank)



- The target of highest interprovincial real GDP per capita growth was not met in 2005-08. **Strong population growth and the economic events beginning in 2008 combined to have a significantly negative impact on Alberta's real GDP per capita. Over the 2005-08 period, real GDP per capita grew by a compounded average of just 0.4 per cent per year.**
- Fluctuations in energy prices and declining investment in the energy and construction sectors led to considerable slowing and provincial results. Alberta's growth rate tied among the provinces and 0.6 percentage points below the Canadian average for 2005-08.
- In terms of interprovincial GDP, Alberta's compound average growth rate was 2.9 per cent, the third highest among provinces. The per capita measure was adversely impacted by diseconomies of scale from continued population growth.

Manufacturing and Service Industry Investment (unaudited)

The value of new capital expenditures (construction and machinery and equipment) in Alberta's manufacturing and service industries (in billions and $ billions)



- **The 2008-09 target of a seven per cent increase in manufacturing and service industry investment was exceeded with investment of $21.2 billion, representing a 10.1 per cent increase from 2007-08.**
- The entire increase in the dollar value of investment between 2007-08 and 2008-09 was accounted for by the pipeline and electricity sectors, as capital investment in these sectors was driven by strong investment growth.
- An additional contribution to the strong growth came about as a result of the weak American dollar, which made Alberta exports more competitive and imports from the U.S. more affordable, and encouraged strong investment activity in Alberta.

Upstream Oil and Gas Industry Investment (unaudited)

Annual capital expenditures in Alberta on exploration and development of oil and gas resources

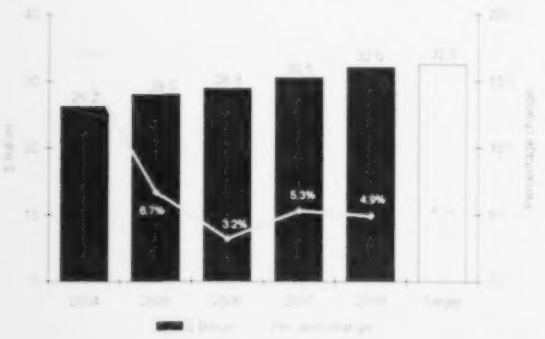
- **At $37.7 billion, total upstream oil and gas industry investment significantly exceeded the target of $15 billion.**
- While conventional oil and gas investment declined by 33 per cent from the record high $25.2 billion in 2007 to $16.8 billion in 2008, this level was offset by increased investment in oil sands development spending of $20.9 billion in 2008, a 48 per cent increase from the 2007 level. The increase in investment in the oil sands sector was primarily due to an increase in capital expenditures on oil sands upgraders.
- Government influences industry investment decisions through royalty and tax regimes, approval processes and market access. Its regulatory environment, and by maintaining a sound climate that is conducive to investment, the province of Alberta creates a

Alberta will have a prosperous economy

Performance Measures

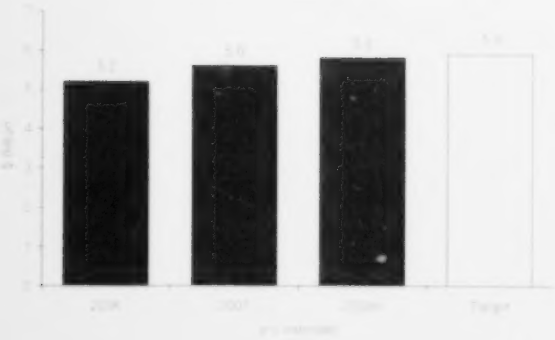
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Manufacturing and Service Exports (unaudited)[7]
The value of Alberta's international exports of manufactured goods and services in current dollars (percentage change).



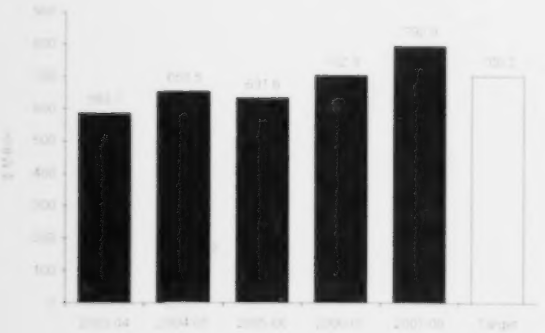
- **Total manufacturing and service exports rose 4.9 per cent in 2008 to $32.0 billion dollars.**
- Factors that stimulated this growth included higher commodity prices, especially for chemicals and food products, and strong demand growth for Alberta's oil and gas field machinery and equipment.
- Although the export value rose as a result of higher prices, the global economic crisis caused export volumes to decline. Manufacturing export volumes fell an estimated 1.8 per cent in 2008, service export volumes fell 4.6 per cent and the U.S. housing collapse caused the value of Alberta's wood products exports to decrease by 31 per cent.

Tourism Expenditures (unaudited)[8]
Total tourism expenditures in Alberta ($ billions).



- **Total tourism expenditure is estimated to be $5.8 billion in 2008, nearly meeting the target of $5.9 billion.**
- External influences that may have an impact on results include economic conditions in Alberta's key tourism markets, the value of the Canadian dollar, world events such as war, terrorism, disease, natural disaster and political upheaval, implementation of new security procedures at border crossings and increased competition from other tourism destinations.
- The recent global financial crisis, rising unemployment rates in many industrialized countries including Canada, and the increasing number of countries that are in or entering recession had a negative impact on travel volume and spending in Alberta. The success of tourism marketing strategies, such as Travel Alberta's Stay Campaign may have also influenced results.

Sponsored Research at Alberta Universities (unaudited)[9]
Total sponsored research revenue attracted by Alberta universities.

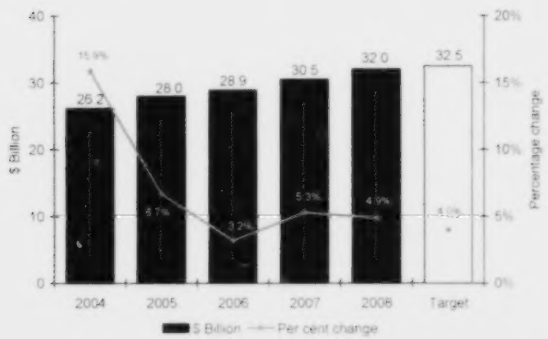


- **Total sponsored research funding attracted by Alberta universities in 2007-08 exceeded the target of $700.2 million by $92.7 million.** Capital investment made by the province in research buildings was the main reason for the success.
- Investments made by the Alberta Science and Research Investment Program and the Canada Foundation for Innovation in Research Infrastructure at Alberta universities have been major contributors to the 36 per cent increase in sponsored research revenue attracted to universities over the past five years.
- The ability of Alberta universities to attract research funding is an indicator of the high quality of university faculty and research programs and the research capability and capacity in the province.

Performance Measures

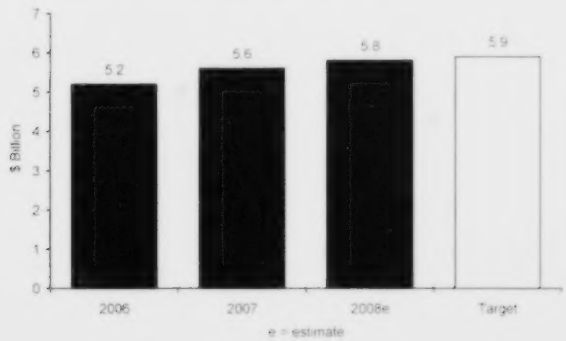
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Manufacturing and Service Exports (unaudited)(7)
The value of Alberta's international exports of manufactured goods and services in current dollars (percentage change).



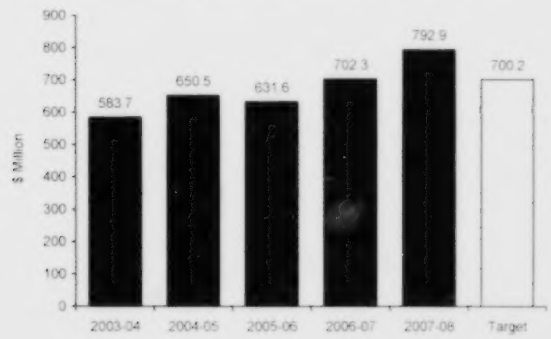
- **Total manufacturing and service exports rose 4.9 per cent in 2008 to $32.0 billion dollars.**
- Factors that stimulated this growth included higher commodity prices, especially for chemicals and food products, and strong demand growth for Alberta's oil and gas field machinery and equipment.
- Although the export value rose as a result of higher prices, the global economic crisis caused export volumes to decline. Manufacturing export volumes fell an estimated 1.8 per cent in 2008, service export volumes fell 4.6 per cent and the U.S. housing collapse caused the value of Alberta's wood products exports to decrease by 31 per cent.

Tourism Expenditures (unaudited)(8)
Total tourism expenditures in Alberta ($ billion).



- **Total tourism expenditure is estimated to be $5.8 billion in 2008, nearly meeting the target of $5.9 billion.**
- External influences that may have an impact on results include economic conditions in Alberta's key tourism markets, the value of the Canadian dollar, world events such as war, terrorism, disease, natural disaster and political upheaval, implementation of new security procedures at border crossings and increased competition from other tourism destinations.
- The recent global financial crisis, rising unemployment rates in many industrialized countries including Canada, and the increasing number of countries that are in, or entering, recession had a negative impact on travel volume and spending in Alberta. The success of tourism marketing strategies, such as Travel Alberta's Stay Campaign may have also influenced results.

Sponsored Research at Alberta Universities (unaudited)(9)
Total sponsored research revenue attracted by Alberta universities.

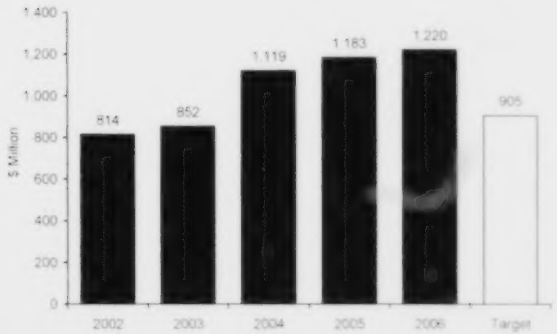


- **Total sponsored research funding attracted by Alberta universities in 2007-08 exceeded the target of $700.2 million by $92.7 million.** Capital investment made by the province in research buildings was the main reason for this success.
- Investments made by the Alberta Science and Research Investments Program and the Canada Foundation for Innovation in Research Infrastructure at Alberta universities have been major contributors to the 36 per cent increase in sponsored research revenue attracted to universities over the past five years.
- The ability of Alberta universities to attract research funding is an indicator of the high quality of university faculty and research programs and the research capability and capacity in the province.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

Performance Measures

Business Expenditures on Research and Development (unaudited)(10)
Alberta business expenditures on research and development.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **Alberta business expenditures on research and development increased substantially between 2002 and 2006. In 2006, business expenditure on research and development was $1,220 million, exceeding the target of $905 million.**
- The increase in 2006 was largely the result of the booming economy when the province experienced above average growth in the research and development sector.
- The government influenced business expenditures on research and development through the provision of research funding programs aimed at encouraging business investment.
- Business expenditures on research and development are a measure of the government's success in creating an environment where innovations are likely to be developed and brought to market.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

GOAL TWO **2** **Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning**

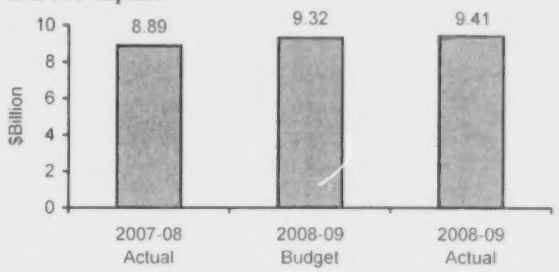
What the Goal Means

Access to quality education and lifelong learning and human resource development opportunities enables Albertans to be responsive and contributing members of society equipped with the tools to make full use of their talents. The education system helps Albertans develop the learning, work and life skills they need to achieve their aspirations and maximize their potential while helping to provide for the province's long-term need for skilled labour.

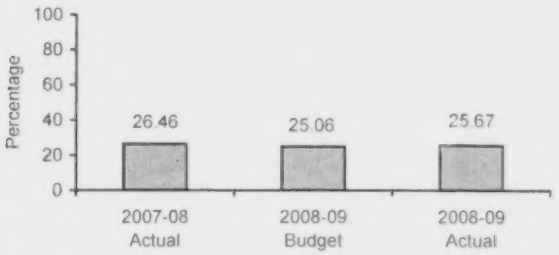
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $9,410.0 million toward the preparation for lifelong learning and work.

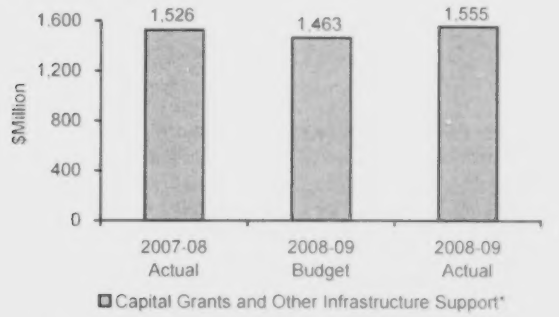
Goal Two Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

2 Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Ensure that Alberta has the health care professionals needed to meet future demand through specific initiatives such as: increase the number of physician graduates from 227 to 295 by 2012; increase the number of registered nurse graduates from 1,375 to 2,000 by 2012; and increase the number of licensed practical nurse graduates from 550 to 1,000 by 2012. (Advanced Education and Technology)	**The government continues to increase access to high quality education and training opportunities in the health professions to ensure Albertans have greater access to knowledgeable and highly skilled health professionals**. To meet the 2012 targets, 949 new spaces were created in health programs at post-secondary institutions for the 2008-09 academic year which will allow the province to expand and enhance health care service delivery as more graduates enter the workforce.
Increase broad-based supports and early intervention initiatives for at-risk children to improve their learning outcomes. Develop and encourage partnerships, provide resources that enable appropriate learning opportunities so at-risk children and youth can overcome barriers to success and enhance the government's collaborative approach to early learning and care. (Education)	Government updated and released the Kindergarten Program Statement which contains learning expectations for children prior to entering Grade one, for use in schools. **Resource materials were distributed for those working with children from immigrant families to child care and early learning centres**. As well, a resource for individuals working with young English language learners was developed. Five preschool screening pilot projects were implemented and a five year Early Child Development Mapping Project was initiated, including use of the Early Development Instrument in five school authorities.
Increase post-secondary spaces available to high demand areas like health and trades over the next two years. (Advanced Education and Technology)	In 2008-09, **2,447 new certificate, diploma and degree spaces were funded at post-secondary institutions and over 900 additional apprenticeship technical training seats were created** to meet the high demand in areas such as health and trades and an increased learner demand.
Ensure that Albertans have access to learning opportunities that are affordable to learners and their families. Reduce the interest rate on student loans from prime plus 2.5 percentage points to prime. (Advanced Education and Technology)	**Government continued to implement initiatives from the Affordability Framework to ensure that financial need is not a barrier to participation in advanced learning opportunities**, including increasing monthly living allowances by five per cent, increasing the part-time earning exemption to $800 per month, increasing the annual loan limit to $13,300, reducing the Canada Millennium Bursary eligibility threshold to $10,000 and removing of scholarships as a resource in calculating financial need. **The interest rate on student loans was lowered to the prime rate**. To ensure that the advanced learning system is affordable to learners and their families, the Government of Alberta continues to work with the federal government and other provincial jurisdictions through pan-Canadian committees to improve and simplify student assistance programs to ensure appropriate financial support is available to adult learners.
Increase student participation and completion rates in health, math, science and career and technology studies (CTS) courses to grow the technology and science sectors. Work with the public, government partners, stakeholders and students to achieve a system where every student is inspired – and has the opportunity – to succeed, graduate and enroll in an appropriate form of post-secondary education or lifelong learning. (Education)	CTS engages students in learning opportunities to discover their interests in practical and purposeful ways. **The revisions to the CTS courses in business, administration, finance and information technology and trades, manufacturing and transportation were completed**. Work is underway to revise courses in health, recreation and human services, media, design and communication arts and natural resources. **To support the new CTS courses, funding was provided to school jurisdictions to upgrade CTS lab space and funding was provided to the Regional Professional Development Consortia to support teachers**. **Changes were negotiated to the entrance requirements for the Faculty of Science University of Alberta**. Five advanced level CTS computing science courses are now accepted in place of one of the math or science courses required for admission.

2 Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Implement the Roles and Mandates Policy Framework for Alberta's publicly funded advanced education system. This includes the development of a provincial access framework and institutional access plans and an outcome-focused resource allocation model. (Advanced Education and Technology)	**In support of government's Roles and Mandates Policy Framework, work continued with post-secondary institutions and stakeholders to more clearly define the roles and responsibilities of Alberta's advanced education system partners**. The Alberta Access Planning Framework and Institutional Access Plans were developed for the first time last year to promote collaboration and address the need for new programs or the expansion of existing programs. A Six Sector Model for Alberta's public post-secondary institutions was introduced to guide Alberta's advanced education system, ensuring the best program and institutional mix to meet the needs of learners, the economy and society. A funding model was developed and approved that will fund institutions based on outcomes achieved, reflect the approved mandates of the institutions and provide incentives for institutional collaboration.
Ensure that the education system continues to expand its capacity to remain adaptable, innovative and responsive to the current and emerging needs of students. Ensure effective transitions throughout the system. Develop a comprehensive and collaborative approach to health, social and learning programs and services for children and youth to ensure that all students are well cared for, safe, healthy and successful at learning. (Education)	**The government implemented updated programs in math, languages, biology, chemistry, physics and social studies**. Digital resources were developed and posted in math, social studies and biology. **A Provincial Protocol Framework and Implementation Plan were developed to improve the success in school of children in care** and four demonstration sites were established. Four new fact sheets were developed to support government's Bullying Prevention Strategy. **Public and stakeholder consultations on special education were conducted** and the Certificate of School Completion was issued for the first time to students with significant cognitive disabilities who met the criteria for this new certificate.
Take a proactive approach to emerging pressures in the education sector workforce, ensuring a child and youth-centred workforce with the best people in the right places, at the right times, with the right skills to meet the needs of learners. (Education)	**Government developed an Education Sector Workforce Planning Framework for Action in collaboration with stakeholders to provide proactive strategies to meet emerging workforce pressures**. A Student Population and Teacher Demand Forecasting Model was developed and released to assist the education sector in workforce planning.
Improve the educational attainment of First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students in provincially funded schools. Work with the education system, community and government partners to enhance Aboriginal success. (Education)	**To support success for Aboriginal students in Alberta schools, government released Promising Practices in First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education and held two province-wide conferences: Mentorship in FNMI Education and Learning Together for Success: Parents and Community Matter**. Government also implemented an Aboriginal Literacy Camps Pilot Project by establishing three First Nation camps and one Métis Settlement camp. Coordination and support for the implementation of an Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Pilot Initiative was provided at Amiskwaciy Academy in Edmonton. To enhance Aboriginal parent and community involvement in education, government implemented the first year of Finding Ways Together, a three year pilot project on FNMI Parent and Community Engagement in three Alberta schools to better understand the factors that impact school engagement for FNMI parents and communities.

2 Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning

Progress Report on Strategies

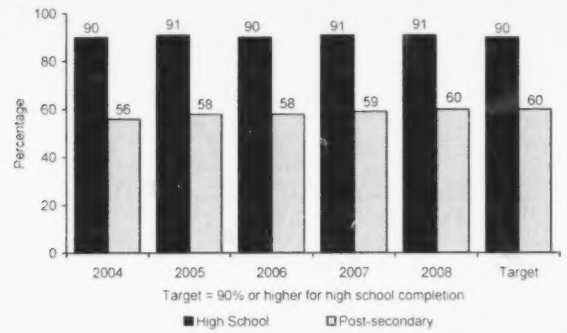
2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Develop new opportunities and approaches to engage stakeholders and communities across the province. **Ensure that our education system reflects the needs of the changing world in which we live**. (Education)	**Government implemented Inspiring Education: A Dialogue with Albertans to engage the public in a multi-faceted dialogue to inform development of a policy framework to guide the future direction of the Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system. Also, Speak Out – the Alberta Student Engagement Initiative was implemented to seek advice from youth on the education system**. An interactive website was launched and 37 youth forums were held across the province and Alberta youth were invited to apply for a position on the Minister's Student Advisory Council.
Assess financing strategies for school construction to ensure schools are available where students live and learn. Explore innovative and creative solutions to school infrastructure to ensure students are educated in safe and well-maintained facilities. (Education)	**The first Alberta Schools Alternative Procurement Project, which will provide 18 new schools in Edmonton and Calgary by September 2010, is currently in the construction phase**. A second phase of the project was announced that will provide an additional 14 schools in the Edmonton and Calgary areas, including Langdon, Okotoks, Spruce Grove and Sherwood Park. In addition, 16 new schools and 11 modernization and replacement projects were completed and 106 modular classrooms were provided to school jurisdictions.

GOAL TWO **2** **Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning**

Performance Measures

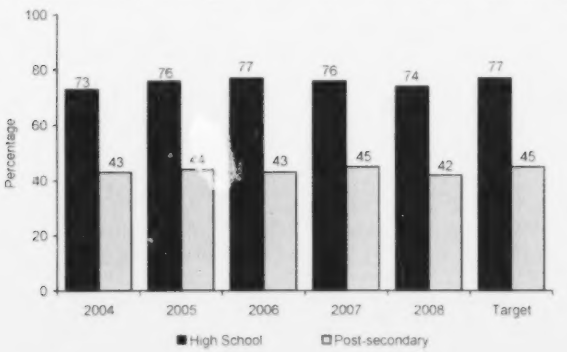
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Educational Attainment of Albertans (audited)(11)
High school completion (age 25-34) and post-secondary completion (age 25-64).



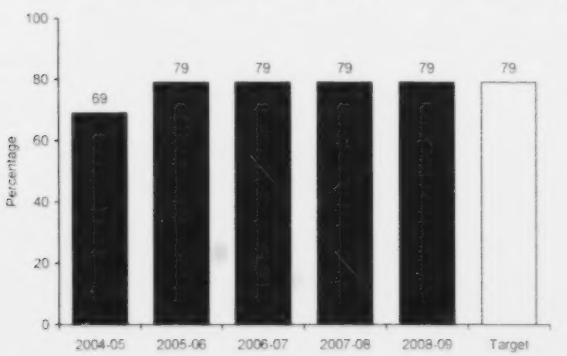
- Survey results indicated that in 2008, **91 per cent of Albertans age 25-34 reported having completed high school. Results have been relatively stable over time and the target of 90 per cent or higher was met.**
- The high percentage of Albertans age 25-34 who have completed high school indicates that many youth who did not complete high school in the Kindergarten to Grade 12 system do so as young adults in the adult learning system. It also reflects the educational attainment of young adults who have moved to Alberta from other provinces in recent years.
- **A highly skilled and knowledgeable citizenry has positive social and economic benefits. In 2008, 60 per cent of Albertans age 25-64 had completed post-secondary education, meeting the target.** The percentage of Albertans age 25-64 with a post-secondary credential continues to increase. The growth is the combined result of the in-migration of skilled and educated workers to Alberta as well as learners in the system completing their programs.

Educational Attainment of Aboriginal Albertans (audited)(12)
High school completion (age 25-34) and post-secondary completion (age 25-64).



- Survey data of Aboriginal Albertans living off reserve indicate that in 2008, **74 per cent of Aboriginal Albertans age 25-34 reported completing high school. Forty-two per cent of Aboriginal Albertans age 25-64 reported having a post-secondary credential.**
- **Over the past five years, results for high school and post-secondary completion for Aboriginal Albertans have remained relatively stable.**
- Government continued to provide additional funding to school jurisdictions for programs and supports for Aboriginal students as well as supporting Aboriginal colleges and post-secondary institutions to enhance quality post-secondary opportunities through expanded access and transfer agreements.

Lifelong Learning (audited)(13)
Public satisfaction that adult Albertans can access education or training.



- **In 2008-09, 79 per cent of Albertans were satisfied or very satisfied that adult Albertans have access to the education and training they want, meeting the target.**
- The Alberta Access Planning Framework, implemented for the first time in 2008, supports planning within the province's publicly-funded post-secondary system in order to broaden access and ensure that Alberta's post-secondary providers can respond to the needs of learners, the economy and society.

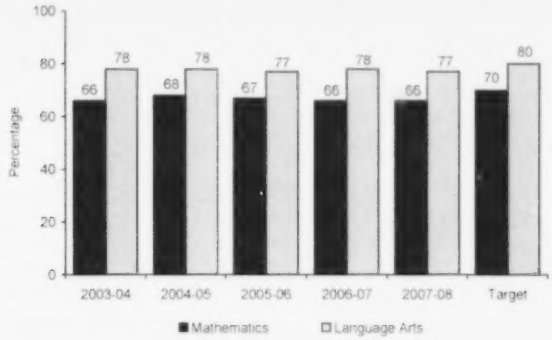
The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Literacy and Numeracy (unaudited)(14)

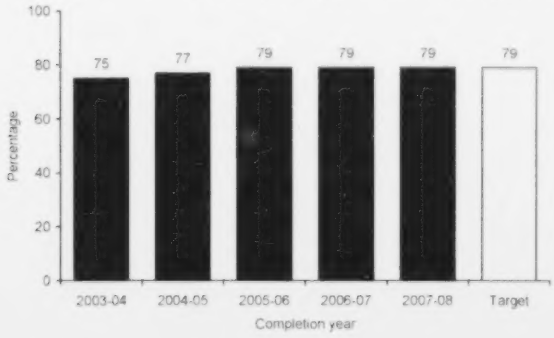
Percentage of all students in Grade 9 who achieve the acceptable standard on Provincial Achievement Tests.



- Student results on the Grade nine achievement tests in language arts and mathematics are proxy indicators because adult literacy studies are conducted infrequently. Students achieving the acceptable standard on these tests have the necessary skills to become literate and numerate adults. **In 2007-08, 77 per cent of students achieved the acceptable standard in language arts and 66 per cent achieved this in mathematics. These results were similar to previous years and below the targets.**
- Adult literacy rates in Alberta are among the highest in Canada and well above the Canadian average. A recent study shows that adults lose literacy skills over time through lack of use.
- Government provides programs for adult Albertans with low literacy skills and held a Pan-Canadian Interactive Literacy Forum in April 2008. Government is developing a literacy framework for Alberta which will include a Guide to Implementation for Literacy in all Kindergarten to Grade 12 subject areas and an Alberta Literacy website, with on-line literacy study and discussion groups.

High School Completion Rate (unaudited)(15)

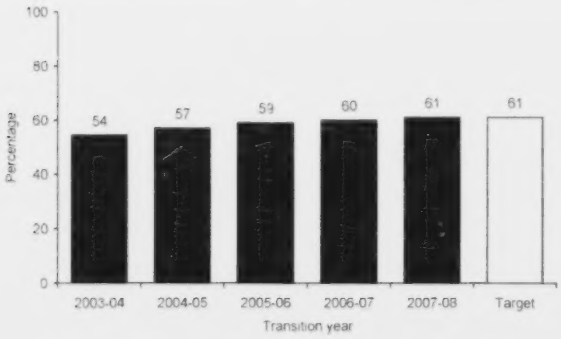
Percentage of students who complete high school within five years of entering Grade ten.



- **In 2007-08, 79 per cent of students completed high school within five years of entering Grade ten which met the target.**
- The high school completion rate has increased and stabilized at a higher level during a time of plentiful job opportunities for young people. This indicates that parents, students and schools recognize high school completion is important for future success.
- Improving the high school completion rate continues to be a priority for the Alberta government. Efforts are underway within schools throughout the province to enable more students to complete high school.

High School to Post-secondary Transition (unaudited)(16)

High school to post-secondary transition rate of students within six years of entering Grade ten.



- **In 2007-08, 61 per cent of Alberta's high school students made the transition to post-secondary within six years of entering Grade ten, meeting the target.**
- The high school to post-secondary transition rate has increased over time. This reflects expanded capacity at post-secondary institutions as well as understanding on the part of Alberta youth that post-secondary education or apprenticeship training is important for their future success.
- To support students attending post-secondary programs, government expanded the Rutherford Scholarship Program starting April 1, 2008 to include students with a 75 per cent average in specified high school courses.

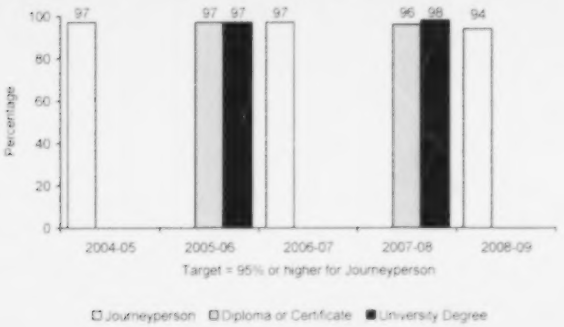
The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

2 Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning

Performance Measures

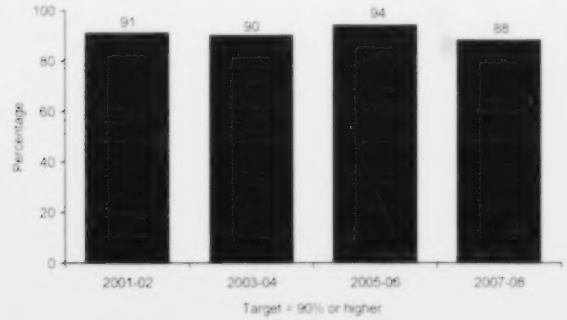
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Employment Rate of Recent Alberta Advanced Education Graduates (unaudited)(17)
Rates for post-secondary certificate or diploma, university degree and journeyperson.



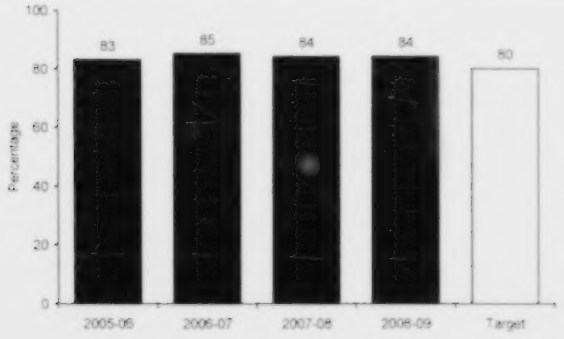
- In 2007-08, two years after graduation, 96 per cent of certificate or diploma graduates and 98 per cent of university graduates were employed, meeting the target of 95 per cent or higher for both results. In 2008-09, 8 to 20 months after completing an apprenticeship program, **94 per cent of journeypersons in the labour force were employed, almost meeting the target of 95 per cent or higher**. The slight drop in employment among journeypersons in 2008-09 may be due to the slow down in the economy.
- The high levels of employment are indicative of the high demand for skilled and knowledgeable workers. It also suggests that high quality advanced education opportunities enhance graduates' employability in the workplace.
- Quality education is important to the government as it prepares individuals for the workforce.

Skill Development (unaudited)(18)
Employer satisfaction with the skills and quality of work of advanced learning system graduates.



- **In 2007-08, employer satisfaction with advanced education graduates was 88 per cent, almost meeting the target of 90 per cent or higher.** The decrease may be due in part to the difficulty in attracting and retaining skilled and knowledgeable employees.
- Government continues to undertake strategies to increase the availability of high quality advanced learning opportunities to meet learner and labour market needs. This includes strategies to encourage increased advanced participation and graduation from post-secondary programs in high demand areas.
- The Campus Alberta Quality Council monitors post-secondary degree programs to ensure graduates receive high quality training to prepare them for the labour market.

Skills Development (unaudited)(19)
Percentage of participants in skills programs employed post-intervention.

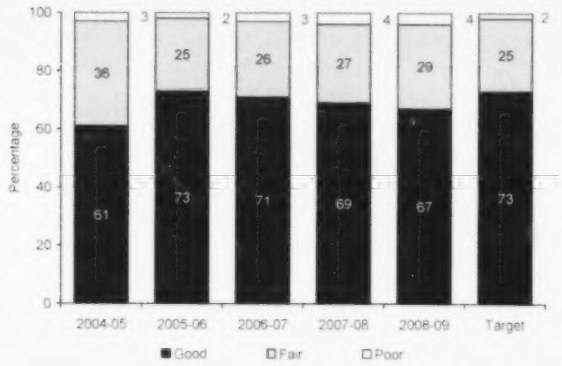


- **In 2008-09, 84 per cent of program participants were employed three months after they left the program. This result exceeded the target and demonstrates the government's success in helping Albertans attach to the labour force.**
- Higher education, work history and the economic climate can affect the employment outcomes of participants.
- The government provides labour market employment and training programs to Albertans, including Work Foundations, Training for Work, and job placement and apprenticeship programs.

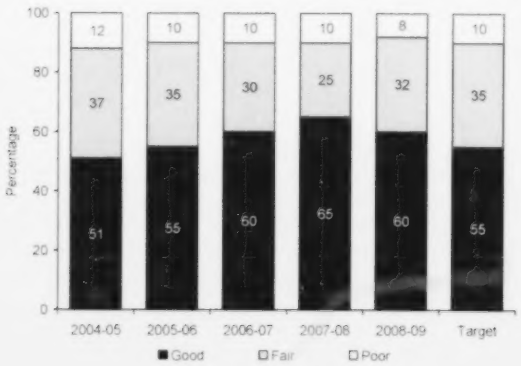
The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

Performance Measures

Physical Condition of Learning Facilities (unaudited)(20)
– **Schools** – in good, fair or poor condition.



– **Post-secondary Institutions** – in good, fair or poor condition.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **In 2008-09, results show that 67 per cent of schools were in good condition, below the target of 73 per cent.** Ninety six per cent of schools remain in acceptable condition.
- Two per cent of the school facilities have moved from good to fair condition due in part to continued aging of the buildings. Also, the impact of capital and maintenance renewal projects is not reflected in these results due to the time required for construction completion.
- There are currently more than 60 major modernization projects underway in the province. School boards have the ability to enter completed projects directly into the evaluation database, allowing for more up-to-date condition information in the future.

- **Results show that 60 per cent of post-secondary institutions were in good condition, above the target of 55 per cent.** The total number of facilities in acceptable condition is 92 per cent, compared to 90 per cent in 2007-08. Overall improvement is noted, as the number of facilities in poor condition has decreased.
- Building condition results are changing as a result of increased funding which will lead to an improvement of facility conditions over time. In addition, revisions to the evaluation methodology are expected to have a one to two year impact on results before stabilizing. For example, in future, life cycle renewal events will be included in the facility condition index calculation so that the building condition calculations will include aging building systems.

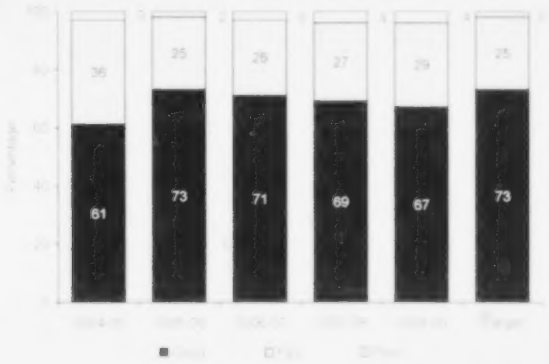
The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning

Performance Measures

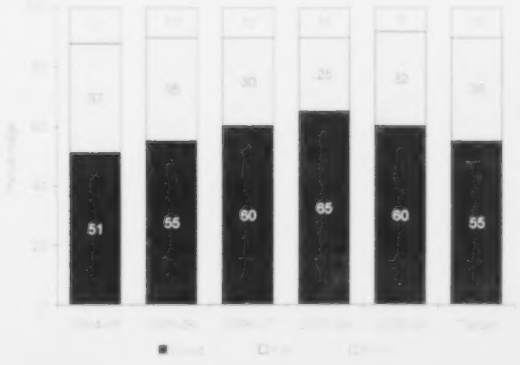
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Physical Condition of Learning Facilities (unaudited)
– **Schools** – in good, fair or poor condition



- **In 2008-09, results show that 67 per cent of schools were in good condition, below the target of 73 per cent.** Seventy-six per cent of schools remain in acceptable condition.
- Two per cent of the school facilities have moved from good to fair condition due in part to continued aging of the buildings. Also, the impact of capital and maintenance renewal projects is not reflected in these results due to the time required for construction completion.
- There are currently more than 60 minor modernization projects underway in the province. School boards have the ability to enter completed projects directly into the evaluation database, allowing for more up-to-date condition information in the future.

Post-secondary Institutions – in good, fair or poor condition



- **Results show that 60 per cent of post-secondary institutions were in good condition, above the target of 55 per cent.** The total number of facilities in acceptable condition is 92 per cent compared to 90 per cent in 2007-08. Overall improvement is noted, as the number of facilities in poor condition has decreased.
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The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained

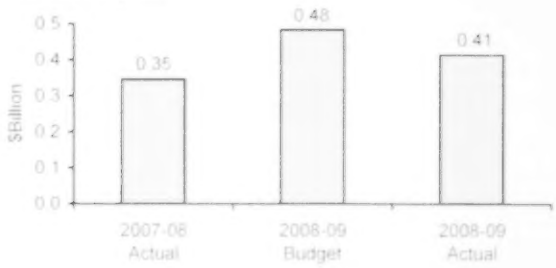
What the Goal Means

Albertans enjoy many benefits from the environment. Clean air, water and healthy landscapes are fundamental to our health, economy and quality of life. Stewardship of the environment is a shared responsibility of citizens, communities, governments and industry. The Alberta government will provide the leadership to ensure a safe and sustainable water supply, keep air clean, adapt to climate change, conserve biological diversity, preserve landscapes for healthy wildlife habitat and Albertans' enjoyment and manage natural resource development in a sustainable way. Albertans expect our environment to be managed and protected for the present and as a legacy for future generations.

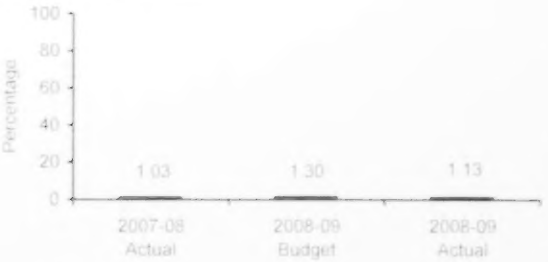
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $414.0 million toward maintaining Alberta's environment.

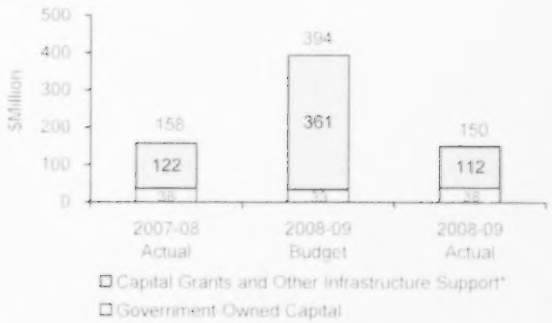
Goal Three Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

GOAL THREE 3

The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained

What the Goal Means

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Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

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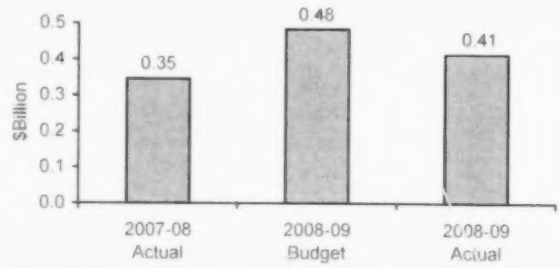
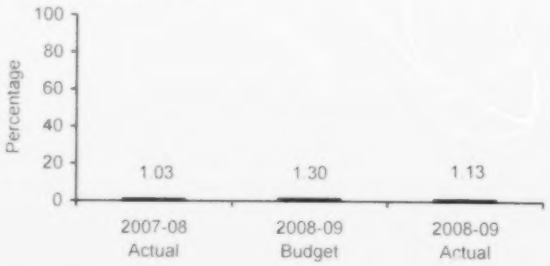
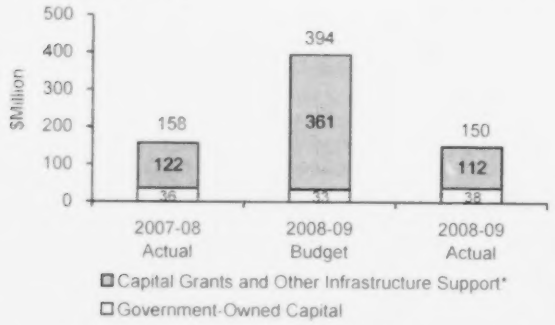
Goal Three Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Implement carbon capture and storage research and demonstration projects. (Energy)	In April 2008, the Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Council was established with a number of advisory and expert groups to work on specific liability issues, ownership and storage rights and harmonize federal and provincial regulations. **In July 2008, the province announced the creation of a two billion dollar fund to advance CCS projects and received proposals for consideration.** The government also established a CCS branch in January to better respond to these initiatives.
Support research on new oil sands extraction processes that use less energy, less water, reduce tailings ponds and improve land reclamation. (Energy)	**The Innovative Energy Technologies Program (IETP) represents a $200 million commitment over five years** to provide royalty adjustments to a number of specific pilot and demonstration projects that use innovative technologies to **increase recoveries from existing reserves and encourage the responsible, development of oil, natural gas and in-situ, or deeply buried, oil sands reserves.** To date, 25 projects have received funding under the IETP.
Inform Albertans on our environmental stewardship to **ensure a clear provincial, national and international understanding of Alberta's leadership, commitment and action on the environment.** (Environment)	**The One Simple Act Campaign was introduced in June 2008 by the Alberta Conservation Team to encourage public involvement in environmental stewardship through waste reduction and the conservation of energy or water through a commitment to one simple action.** The team attended public events and worked with community-based organizations, municipalities and corporations across Alberta. A comprehensive list of achievements is available at the One Simple Act website.
Implement the Climate Change Strategy, including conservation, energy efficiency and adaptation initiatives. (Environment)	**A reduction of 6.53 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions in Alberta was achieved as industry delivered on the first full year of mandatory targets for the 2008 calendar year.** As well, $82.3 million was paid into the Climate Change and Emissions Management Fund. Management of the fund is set out under proposed Bill 8, the *Climate Change and Emissions Management Amendment Act*, a component of the *Climate Change Strategy* update announced in January 2008. **Additional new funding for public transit alternatives was provided through the Green Transit Incentives Program to reduce the number of vehicles on Alberta roads and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.** A new energy efficiency and conservation rebate program for Albertans was initiated with rebates available to existing homeowners who improve their energy efficiency, to new home buyers who purchase energy efficient homes and to taxi operators who are transitioning their fleet to hybrid vehicles. These programs were implemented as part of the *Climate Change Strategy*.
With our partners, lead Alberta's transition to an outcomes focused cumulative effects management system that is integrated with Alberta's *Land-use Framework* and **addresses the impacts of development on land, air, water and biodiversity, at a regional level.** (This priority integrates with the Land Use strategic priority under Goal 1.) (Environment)	As noted in Goal 1, the government released Alberta's new *Land-use Framework* to better manage the province's public and private lands and natural resources. Implementing this framework and its associated regional plans will help manage the impacts of development on air, land, water and biodiversity. **Groundwork on a new environmental *Cumulative Effects Management Act* commenced.** The Act will update and better coordinate existing environmental legislation and follow through on the policies and planning activities under the *Land-use Framework*. Related policy and technical advances included a cumulative effects governance framework implementation plan, technology and economic reviews in the industrial heartland and development of geospatial specifications and distribution standards and data sharing mechanisms for use across government. See Goal 1 for a more detailed discussion of *Land-use Framework* results.

GOAL THREE

3 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained

Progress Report on Strategies

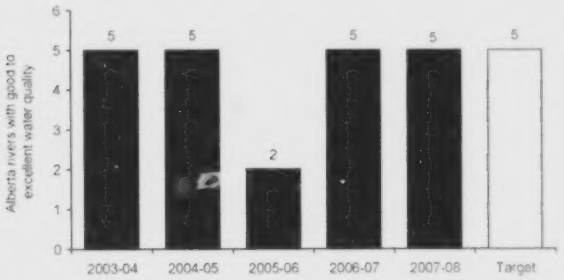
2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
With our partners, **manage Alberta's water resources to ensure the province has the quality and quantity of water needed now and into the future** to support the population, healthy aquatic ecosystems and economic growth. (Environment)	**The *Water for Life* strategy was renewed in the areas of drinking water and wastewater, aquatic ecosystem health, governance systems and water monitoring, evaluation, and reporting** which followed the recommendations of the Alberta Water Council. Capital and operating funding was committed to support the *Water for Life* strategy and funding was also provided to watershed stewardship groups. New funding was allocated to further the province's knowledge and management of groundwater. In addition, the Operational Assistance Pilot Program was started to address challenges faced by water utility providers in smaller Alberta communities.
With our partners, **enhance our environmental management system to ensure we are world leaders in environmentally sustainable development of the oil sands** through innovative policies and procedures that focus on cumulative effects. (Environment)	**A provincial energy strategy, *Launching Alberta's Energy Future* and a comprehensive 20-year strategic plan for Alberta's oil sands, *Responsible Actions: A Plan for Alberta's Oil Sands*, were released**. These plans align with other environmental initiatives, such as the *Land-use Framework*, *Climate Change Strategy* and the renewed *Water for Life* strategy. Coordinated planning and management of cumulative effects supports balancing development with environmental sustainability to provide quality of life for future generations.
Develop a biodiversity action plan to conserve biological diversity and enable sound management of Alberta's natural resources on a sustainable basis. (Sustainable Resource Development)	**The government provided the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute with $4.2 million to carry out its world-class monitoring program that is unique in North America**. The institute released its first core report in early 2009 – *The Status of Birds and Vascular Plants in Alberta's Lower Athabasca Planning Region 2009 (Preliminary Assessment)*. This report sets the baseline health for living resources that will be used to support land-use planning and track how the environment is changing in the decades to come.

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

River Water Quality Index (audited)(21)

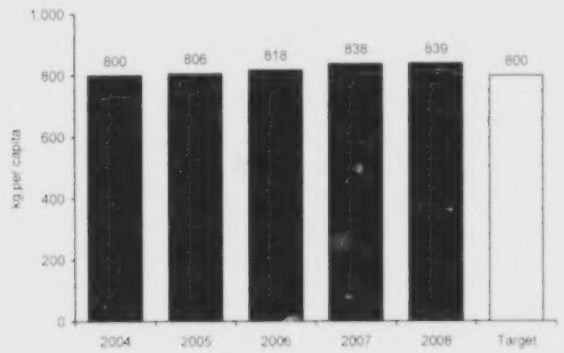
Evaluates the water quality of six major Alberta rivers at key sites, based on monthly data on four groups of variables (metals, bacteria, nutrients and pesticides) which are combined to provide an indication of overall water quality.



- **In 2007-08, five out of six river systems assessed as part of the Alberta River Water Quality Index demonstrated good to excellent water quality. This is consistent with the target.**
- Various natural and human factors, including flow volume, degree of development in the basin, point source effluent discharges and non-point source runoff (e.g., from agricultural fields), can influence the Index.
- The Alberta River Water Quality Index examines a very broad range of water quality parameters, many of which tend to fluctuate over time. Hence, a small level of inter-annual variability in Index ratings is expected and typically observed.

Municipal Solid Waste to Landfills (audited)(22)

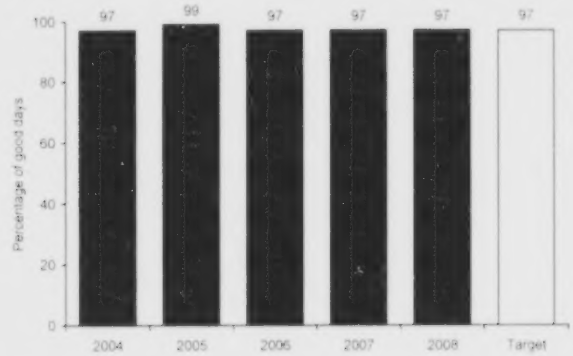
Measures Alberta's progress towards reducing the amount of municipal solid waste disposed in landfills as measured in kilograms of waste per capita.



- **Municipal solid waste disposed in landfills increased from 838 kilograms per capita in 2007 to 839 kilograms per capita in 2008, thereby not reaching the target.**
- A number of factors can influence this measure including specific waste reduction initiatives and the state of Alberta's economy. Waste from the residential sector, the industrial, commercial and institutional sector and the construction, renovation and demolition sectors can all be affected to various degrees by changes in economic activity.
- Aggressive and innovative approaches will be necessary in the coming years to reduce disposal. Initiatives currently under development will assist in reaching the target, such as a diversion program for construction and demolition waste. Diversion policies and programs for packaging and printed materials, organic materials and other key waste streams will also be required in order to reach the waste disposal target.

Air Quality Index (unaudited)(23)

Evaluates the quality of Alberta's air based on five major pollutants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulphur dioxide and fine particulate matter – $PM_{2.5}$.



- **In 2008, Alberta had good air quality days occurring 97 per cent of the time, which met the 97 per cent target.**
- There is not a statistically significant upward or downward trend in the Air Quality Index. Changes observed from year-to-year are primarily due to variations in factors such as weather.
- Air quality is influenced by a number of factors including vehicle emissions, weather patterns, wildfires and intensity of industrial development.

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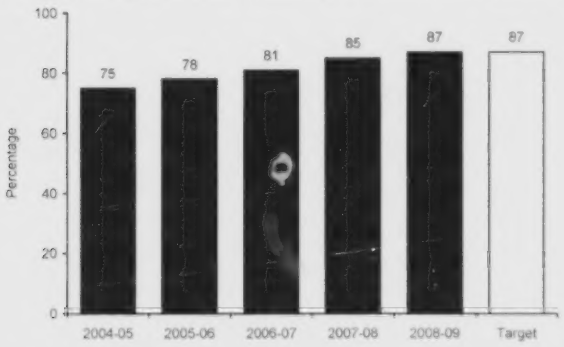
Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

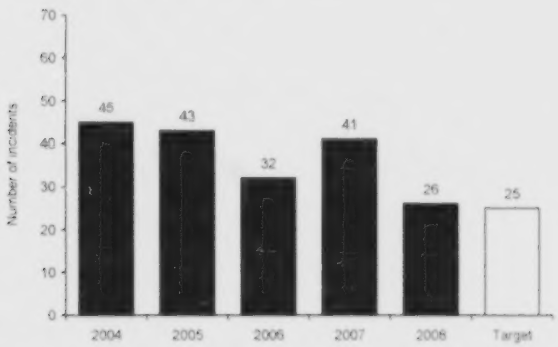
Drinking Water Safety Indicator (unaudited)(24)
Evaluates the performance of facilities delivering safe drinking water.

– **Facility Design Standards** – percentage of facilities meeting the newest (1997 or 2006) standards, as applicable.



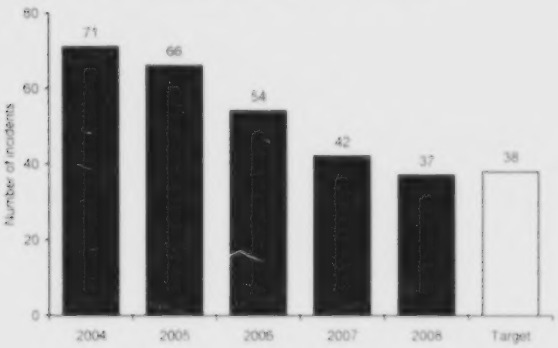
- **In 2008-09, 87 per cent of regulated systems had treatment technology in place meeting newer facility design standards. This is an improvement in the water quality technology at facilities of two per cent over the previous year and meets the target of 87 per cent.**
- Regulated systems are required to upgrade to newer standards within a reasonable period after these newer standards are adopted. Requirements may be specified at the discretion of the department in accordance with legislation.
- The remaining facilities meet an older standard and will require upgrading over time.

– **Facility Operational Requirements** – number of incidents that could lead to water quality incidents where regulatory requirements have not been met.



- **Compliance with facility operational requirements saw a decrease in the number of incidents in 2008, with 26 incidents in 22 facilities. These results are very close to the target of 25 incidents, returning to the desired trend over time.**
- The Alberta government continues to address this challenge through abatement and various initiatives which should reduce the number of incidents in future results.
- Other initiatives include the Operational Assistance Pilot Program and development of regional operator consortiums to assist facilities in dealing with operational challenges and assistance from government Drinking Water Operational Specialist staff.

– **Water Quality** – number of water quality incidents.

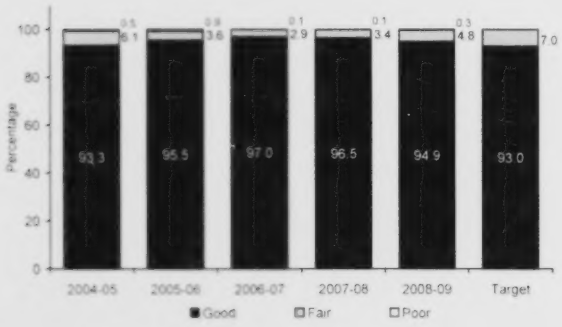


- **In 2008, 37 water quality incidents occurred at 36 facilities.**
- The decrease in the number of incidents is, in part, the result of upgrading of facilities to newer standards as well as operators operating in accordance with the Facility Operational Requirements.
- Advisories were issued where necessary and staff assisted in addressing the problems. The initiatives to continue upgrading facilities and address operational challenges should continue to allow the targets to be met and further reduce these incidents in the future.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

Performance Measures

Effective Water Management Infrastructure (unaudited)(25)
Physical condition of provincially-owned water management infrastructure.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **In 2008-09, the percentage of the province's water management infrastructure deemed to be in good physical condition was 94.9 per cent, which is slightly less than 96.5 per cent in 2007-08, but exceeds the target of 93 per cent.**
- Results can be attributed to the inclusion of additional assets being assessed and the aging of infrastructure.
- The government continues to operate, rehabilitate and maintain over 200 major provincially owned water management infrastructure systems and projects. This infrastructure provides a healthy and sustainable water supply for the environment, for our communities and for our economic well-being and helps to manage the impact of droughts and floods. It helps to supply water to meet irrigation, agricultural, municipal, industrial, recreational and ecological and environmental requirements.

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3 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained

Performance Measures

Effective Water Management Infrastructure (amended)(2,5)

Physical condition of provincially owned water management infrastructure.

Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **In 2008-09, the percentage of the province's water management infrastructure deemed to be in good physical condition was 94.9 per cent, which is slightly less than 96.5 per cent in 2007-08, but exceeds the target of 93 per cent.**
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GOAL FOUR

4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

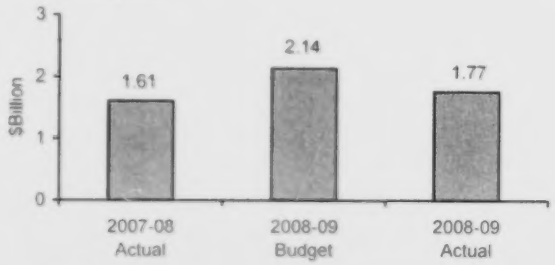
What the Goal Means

Financial sustainability, a coordinated and disciplined approach to governance and policy making and a strong public service are essential in providing the programs and services that are important to Albertans now and in the future. The government is committed to openness and accountability that earns the trust of Albertans and reflects its priorities in the public interest. The government works to promote the province's interests as an equal partner in a strong, united Canada, to strengthen its international relations and to enhance trade and investment liberalization internationally and domestically.

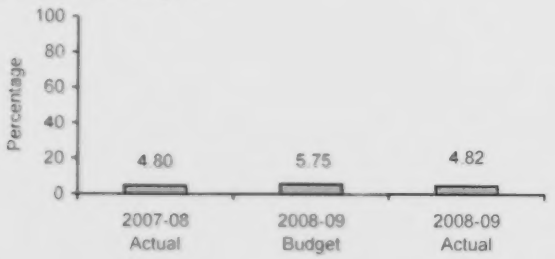
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $1,764.9 million toward the general administration of government and toward the promotion of strong and effective partnerships with local, provincial, national and international governments.

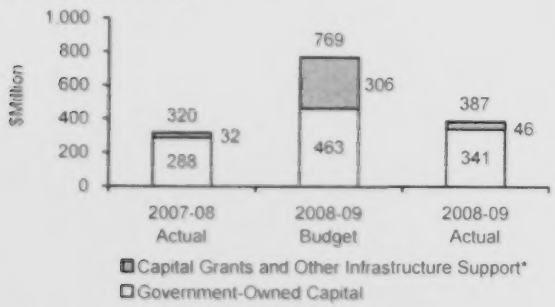
Goal Four Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

GOAL FOUR 4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Review the principles and elements for the fiscal framework. Provide sound economic and fiscal advice through direct involvement in key sectoral strategies through assessing the implications of emerging cost pressures on government programs and through the provision of policy advice on the fiscal and economic implications of demographic change on government programs. Also, **phase out health care premiums in four years** or less and increase support for Alberta families through increases to the caregiver, infirm dependent and the disability supplement non-refundable tax credit amounts and the Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit. (Finance and Enterprise)	**Health care premiums were eliminated, effective January 1, 2009.** The elimination of health care premiums will return one billion dollars annually to Albertans and Alberta businesses. Families will benefit by as much as $1,056 each year. Single Albertans will benefit by as much as $528 per year. **A new fiscal framework was introduced that has been simplified and enhances the government's flexibility to respond to changing economic and fiscal conditions.** Economic and fiscal advice was provided on the development and implementation of key sectoral strategies such as the *Climate Change Strategy*, the *Provincial Energy Strategy*, the Oil Sands Strategy Plan, the *Land-use Framework*, the Capital Region Plan, the *Health Action Plan* and the *New Royalty Framework*.
Support partners with the technical expertise to **increase the efficiency of health and education infrastructure design and construction**. This includes determining the most appropriate design and construction of new and expanded health facilities to meet the needs of a growing population, leading edge health professionals and innovative health delivery. It also includes new Kindergarten to Grade 12 and post-secondary learning facilities, as well as the maintenance of existing facilities, to support the delivery of educational programs for learners. (Infrastructure)	Phase I of the Alberta Schools Alternative Procurement (ASAP) was the first of its kind public private partnership (PPP) initiative in Alberta and the recipient of the Premier's Award of Excellence (Gold), the Leadership in Public Procurement Award and the Canadian Council of Public Private Partnerships Award of Merit. Core school designs were developed and implemented for Kindergarten to Grade nine and Grade five to nine schools and are being used for the ASAP projects. **Core school designs reduce design and construction time and streamline the implementation process.** A framework was developed for Building Performance Evaluation (BPE) for health care facilities. **Pilot projects identified in the BPE framework are underway as part of a strategy to implement and maintain best practices and consistent facility standards.** Long Term Care capital submissions were reviewed for potential PPP candidate projects. Research was initiated for facility architecture to guide best practices for government standards. Topics include Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold, core and modular design potential for healthcare and seniors' facilities, green specifications and standards review, alternative roofing technologies and post-occupancy evaluation of green buildings.
Establish a single enterprise approach to information technology development and operations for the Government of Alberta, thereby increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery to Albertans. Citizens will gain further benefits through enhanced integrity and transparency of the information each ministry provides to Albertans. (Service Alberta)	**Government implemented various initiatives under the Information Management and Technology Strategy and the Information and Communications Technology Service Coordination Initiative** to enable a corporate approach to information and technology management and service delivery and streamline the access to programs and services by Albertans.

GOAL FOUR

4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Implement the 20-year Strategic Capital Plan and an information management and technology strategy that addresses the needs related to Alberta's immediate and long-term growth, ensures the maintenance of existing infrastructure, explores options to fund capital projects and recommends strategies that mitigate the impact of inflation on infrastructure costs. (Treasury Board)	**A committee was established to provide working level advice and input to capital planning strategies and processes for government owned and supported infrastructure.** A capital planning manual was drafted outlining roles and responsibilities of departments and other stakeholders in the capital planning process. Alternate financing options were reviewed and approved for the Anthony Henday Northwest ring road in Edmonton, Southeast Stony Trail in Calgary and the initial phase of the Alberta school alternative procurement project.
Ensure Albertans receive appropriate benefits from their ownership of non-renewable resources by implementing the new Royalty Framework for Alberta (Energy)	**The first phase of the Alberta Royalty Framework was implemented effective January 1, 2009.** This included implementation of the Deep Well Program. Implementation of the Transitional Rates Program and the five per cent Reduced Rate Program is expected at the beginning of June 2009. Work is currently ongoing to clarify some of the policies and business rules on the Drilling Credit Program. Current expectations are that this program will be implemented in September 2009.
As part of strengthening the Government of Alberta's long-term fiscal position, **implement a renewed long-term investment and savings policy**. This policy will ensure that all Albertans, including future generations, benefit from Alberta's strong fiscal position (Finance and Enterprise)	The Government of Alberta **continued to consider options and implications of long-term savings and investment strategies**. The fiscal situation dramatically changed in 2008-09 with financial markets and energy prices in decline, the global economy entering a recession and the Government of Alberta posting its first deficit in 15 years. This has significantly affected the ability to implement a long-term savings and investment strategy. It has confirmed the prudence of setting aside savings for short term risk management in the expanded Sustainability Fund which will be used to offset deficits and support the economy.
Ensure Alberta's interests are advanced nationally and internationally by **strengthening ties with our western partners and developing an international strategy**. (International and Intergovernmental Relations)	**Strengthened cooperation between Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan was a key achievement over the past year, enhancing Alberta's position on national intergovernmental issues.** Alberta was also a leading participant in the Western Premiers' Conference, Council of the Federation meetings and First Ministers' meetings. A number of diverse agenda items were presented by provinces and the federal government at these meetings and Alberta was able to lead jurisdictions in forming a consensus on many issues. Alberta concluded negotiations with British Columbia and held extensive consultations with municipalities, academic institutions, school boards and health regions (MASH) on provisions to expand the scope and coverage of the British Columbia-Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement to the MASH sector. **Government held consultations with external stakeholders in the development of an international strategy.**
Improve service delivery, whether in person, by phone or through the internet, to Albertans by **creating innovative approaches to serving Albertans in an accessible, timely and efficient manner**, while maintaining information security and integrity. Encourage and support the use of electronic business initiatives to make it easier for Albertans to access government. (Service Alberta)	**Albertans are now able to register for Alberta Health Care Insurance at 20 registry agent offices** with consideration to expand the service to more registry agent offices in the future. In conjunction with Industry Canada and local municipalities, government provides BizPal access in Alberta. **BizPal is a free Internet service that simplifies the business permit, licence and other compliance regulation process** for entrepreneurs, governments and third party business service providers to encourage business growth within communities.

GOAL FOUR 4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Ensure the Government of Alberta has the skilled workforce needed to provide important public services in the future by implementing attraction and retention strategies. (Treasury Board – Corporate Human Resources)	**The public service was strengthen through initiatives under the Alberta Public Service Workforce Plan**, with a focus on promoting the Government of Alberta as an employer of choice, supporting employee growth and development and providing a quality work environment for employees. These initiatives help employees do their best work in delivering high quality programs and services for Albertans.
Strengthen the government of Alberta's long-term fiscal position by: improving expenditure management, enhancing the capital planning process and by modernizing and strengthening the business planning and budget development process. (Treasury Board)	**Government completed a value review to identify opportunities to eliminate duplication, reduce administrative or regulatory requirements, or streamline operations in 2008-09.** Government also attempted to generate operating expense savings from reported third quarter forecasts during the fourth quarter of 2008-09. In addition, a fiscal tracking system was developed to better capture fiscal changes for both in-year and future year target adjustments, which created efficiencies in coordinating information across government. Business planning processes were strengthened by fully integrating enterprise risk management into e-scanning, business planning and reporting at the ministry and government level. Detailed information was reviewed regarding the operating cost implications resulting from the completion of approved capital projects.

GOAL FOUR

4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

Performance Measures

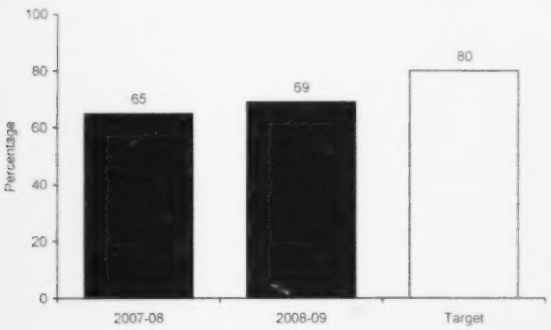
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Alberta's Credit Rating (audited)(26)
Blended credit rating for domestic debt.

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Target
Credit rating	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA

- **Alberta again met the target with a Triple A rating from major credit rating agencies.**
- A blended credit rating for domestic debt is an assessment of the future ability of an organization to repay its long-term debt. Alberta's Triple A credit rating is a result of the province's strong financial position given its lack of net public debt.
- The province of Alberta also enjoyed strong revenue generating ability given the high levels of activity in the resource sector and high average energy prices throughout the year.

Albertans' Satisfaction with Access to Services and Information (audited)(27)
Percentage of Albertans surveyed who are satisfied/very satisfied with access to Government of Alberta services and information.



- **Sixty-nine per cent of Albertans were satisfied or very satisfied with their ability to access Government of Alberta services and information.** This is an increase over last year's result and less than ten per cent of respondents cited dissatisfaction.
- **As the 80 per cent target was not met,** ministry collaboration and coordination of service channels continues to be a priority to ensure Alberta has the best service delivery model to benefit citizens. Expected outcomes include enhanced service content and functionality through the Internet and through the Service Alberta call centre.

Physical Condition of Government-owned and Operated Facilities (unaudited)(28)
Rating as good, fair, or poor.

Year	Condition		
	Good	Fair	Poor
2008-09	63%	34%	3%

- **The percentage of government-owned and operated facilities over 1,000 gross square meters that are rated in good, fair and poor condition was 63 per cent, 34 per cent and three per cent respectively.**
- To enhance reporting and enable comparison of condition ratings across facility types, a Facility Condition Index was adopted to replace the previously used six-point rating system. The 2008-09 target and past results are based on the obsolete six point rating and are therefore not comparable to the 2008-09 actual results and have been omitted.
- Many government-owned and operated facilities were built between 1975 and 1985 and are approaching a time when major upgrading or refurbishment will be required to maintain them.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

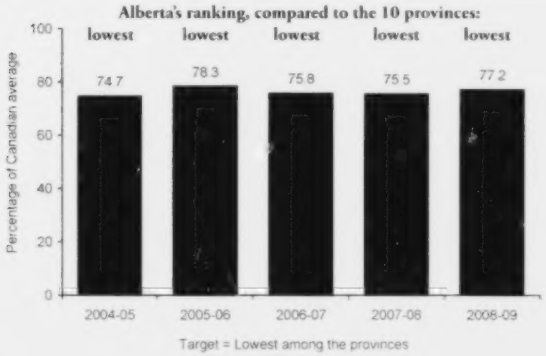
GOAL FOUR

4 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally

Performance Measure

Tax Load (unaudited)(29)

Total provincial and municipal tax load as a percentage of the Canadian average (inter-provincial rank).



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **Alberta continues to have the lowest overall tax load in Canada.**
- Alberta is the only province not to levy a sales tax or a capital tax and also does not levy a payroll tax like four other provinces do.
- Alberta also has the lowest top marginal rate for personal income taxes, the lowest general corporate income tax rate and the lowest fuel tax among provinces.

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5 Albertans will be healthy

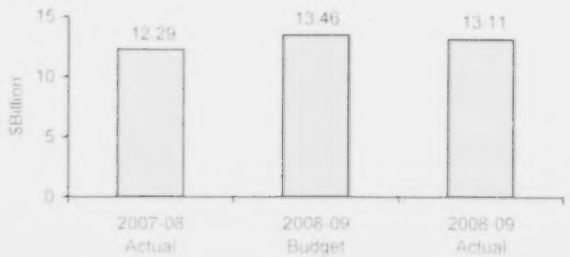
What the Goal Means

Albertans are encouraged to realize their full health potential through informed lifestyle choices. The province contributes to the health of Albertans by advocating and educating for healthy living, providing integrated quality health and wellness services through the Alberta Health Services Board, other provider organizations and community practitioners. The province leads and participates in the continuous improvement of the health and continuing care systems.

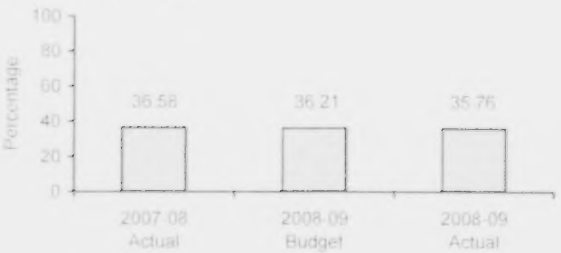
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $13,107.0 million toward the health care system.

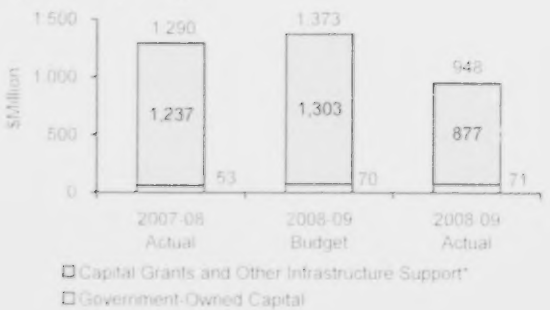
Goal Five Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Capital Expense.

GOAL FIVE **5** **Albertans will be healthy**

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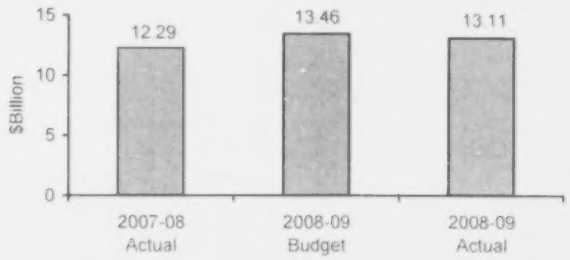
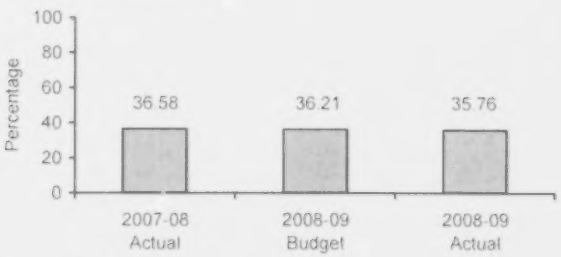
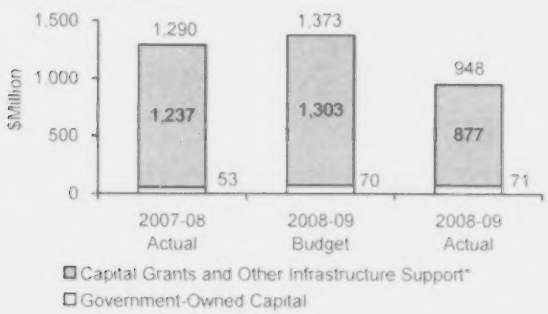


Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Identify, prevent and treat mental disorders so that those affected can lead normal, productive and rewarding lives. Respond in a timely manner and provide effective treatment and rehabilitation to those affected by substance abuse and addictions. Alberta's health system needs to be able to offer treatment beds and a variety of other options for helping these individuals understand their illness, deal with their condition and to live normal and productive lives. (Health and Wellness)	Twenty new treatment beds were added to two existing addiction recovery centres in Edmonton and Calgary to **provide young Albertans between the ages of 18-24 with greater access to residential treatment programs for addiction**. Also, the Children's Mental Health Plan for Alberta: Three Year Action Plan was released and will improve access to mental health services for infants, children, youth and their families. As part of Alberta's *Tobacco Reduction Act*, retailers across the province were required to remove all point-of-sale advertising and displays of tobacco products from their shelves and to store tobacco products out of sight. As well, the sale of tobacco products in pharmacies, stores that contain pharmacies, health-care facilities and public post-secondary institutions was prohibited.
Establish and improve mechanisms for ensuring the appropriate governance and accountability of all health service providers ranging from individual care givers to large corporate entities. Work with health service providers and regulatory bodies to ensure that standards are constantly reviewed and updated, that performance is measured, monitored and reported, that safeguards are in place to anticipate, prevent and learn from errors and adverse events. (Health and Wellness)	**Government announced that one provincial governance board will replace Alberta's nine regional health authority boards, the Alberta Mental Health Board, Alberta Cancer Board and Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission to ensure that the provincial health system is patient-focused and provides equitable access to all Albertans**. The new Alberta Health Services Board will be responsible for health services delivery for the entire province, effective April 1, 2009 and will report directly to the Minister of Health and Wellness.
Continuously improve the way services are funded, organized and delivered. The long-term sustainability of the health system depends on its ability to sustain the health of the population and enhance efficiency, cost-effectiveness and value for money. (Health and Wellness)	**Government released Vision 2020, a report outlining a number of actions that will enhance efficiency and guide Alberta's healthcare system into the future**. The main goals in Vision 2020 include: providing the right service in the right place and at the right time; enhancing access to high quality services in rural areas; matching workforce supply to demand for services; improving coordination of care and delivery of care; and building a strong foundation for public health. The *Emergency Health Services Act* received Royal Assent in December 2008 and transfers the responsibility for ambulance services from the province's municipalities to the Province, allowing for a more patient-focused system that is free of geographical boundaries.

Progress Report on Strategies

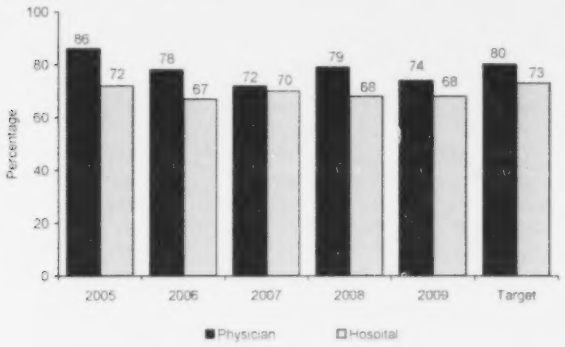
2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Build on previous grant programs to **facilitate the development of affordable supportive living options** and create opportunities for innovation by removing barriers and considering incentives for developing an appropriate range of continuing care accommodation options. Government will continue quality improvements by implementing accommodation standards in a greater range of continuing care settings. (Seniors and Community Supports)	**Government launched its Continuing Care Strategy: Aging in the Right Place**. A key part of the strategy is providing seniors and persons with disabilities with more options for quality accommodations that best meet their needs. Government made major investments in supportive living for seniors and persons with disbilities that will help them to age in the right place. Capital funding provided through the Affordable Supportive Living Initiative is helping to develop 890 new units and to modernize an additional 263. The Lodge Modernization and Improvement program funded upgrades to 1,992 lodge units for seniors. Government continued to support quality by expanding monitoring activities to a greater range of continuing care settings. Also, government assisted Albertans to make informed choices about continuing care accommodations through a public reporting website. The website identifies if a facility complies with accommodation standards or has verified complaints on record.
Enhance the availability and sustainability of the health workforce through Alberta's Health Workforce Strategy. This includes new initiatives to increase Alberta's ability to train, recruit and retain health professionals in all disciplines. Encourage health professionals to work to the full capacity of their knowledge, expertise and training and support them through safe and healthy workplaces. The recruitment of internationally trained health workers is an important part of this strategy. In addition, the mobility of health workers will be enhanced through the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between Alberta and British Columbia. (Health and Wellness)	**Funding for 227 new education spaces for physicians, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and other health professionals was announced**. The Alberta International Medical Graduate Program also contributed to increasing the number of practicing healthcare professionals by matching a record 59 international medical graduates to residency positions.
Reduce barriers and encourage people to take the best possible care of their own health and that of their families and communities. A healthy population requires fewer health services and is the best way of ensuring a sustainable health system. Communities are at the heart of Alberta's economic and social fabric and provide the impetus for continued growth, prosperity and well-being. (Health and Wellness)	**A first of its kind in Canada, the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth was developed specifically for caregivers operating childcare facilities, schools and recreation centres**. A new Blood Borne Pathogens and Sexually Transmitted Infections Action Plan was released that includes the Alberta Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Immunization Program plan and a Provincial Syphilis Prevention Campaign.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Enhance primary health care by taking a whole-person approach to address both physical and mental health needs. Primary health care requires innovative, multi-disciplinary teams, new incentives and compensation methods. The emphasis is on achieving lifelong health and providing effective treatment for episodic health conditions. Primary health care focuses on early detection, prevention, chronic disease management and education about the factors that affect health and minimize complications of chronic diseases. (Health and Wellness)	**An additional four Primary Care Networks were launched, bringing the total number to 30 and an additional nine clinical Alternate Relationship Plans (ARP) were implemented bringing the total number of clinical ARPs in Alberta to 42.** ARPs encourage innovation in health service delivery and are intended to enhance the recruitment and retention of health care providers, enhance interdisciplinary team based approaches to service delivery, improve access to care and increase patient satisfaction.
Ensure that Albertans can count on the health system to provide safe, quality health services. Strengthen operational systems and promote personal commitment and an organizational culture that places the safety and well-being of patients at the centre. Continue development of versatile and responsive information systems to provide accurate and timely patient information at the point of care and to continuously monitor and review safety related data and information. (Health and Wellness)	**Government issued a directive requiring health facility operators to have mandatory accreditation for all health authorities, facilities and programs.** Bill 46, the *Health Professions Amendment Act*, received Royal Assent in December 2008, allowing health professional colleges to monitor and enforce their members' compliance with professional standards of practice, which will help improve the quality and safety of Albertans' health care.
Ensure that Albertans have access to sustainable government drug coverage through the implementation of a new pharmaceutical strategy. Pharmaceuticals are a critical component of health care. The Pharmaceutical Strategy will challenge the old way of doing business and will allow for new approaches to improve patient outcomes, achieve equity and fairness and implement needed cost controls. (Health and Wellness)	**Government released the new Alberta Pharmaceutical Strategy to provide an accessible, sustainable and affordable pharmaceutical system.** Among the key components are redesigned drug coverage for seniors, revised premiums for non-group drug benefit programs, the consolidation and alignment of government drug programs, a program to provide drug therapy to those with rare diseases and an improved process for drug pricing and purchasing.

Performance Measures

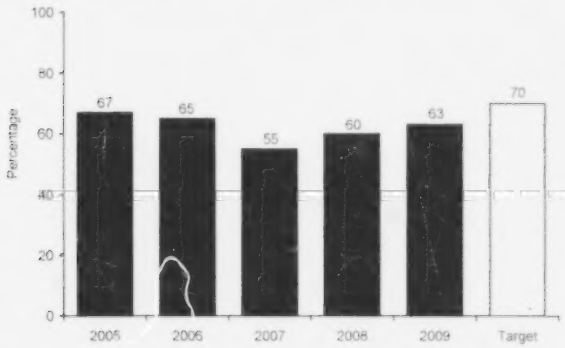
Ease of Access to Services – Physician Services and Hospital Services (audited)(30)
Rating as easy or very easy.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

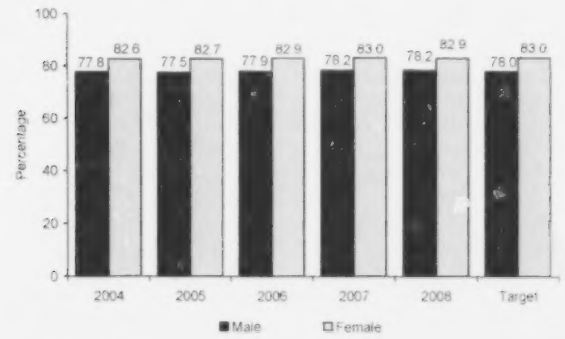
- A 2009 survey of Albertans age 18 and over found that **74 per cent who had personally accessed physician services in the past 12 months reported that it was very easy or easy to access services from their physician**. This result is under the target of 80 per cent. Fewer physicians accepting new patients and long wait times for medical appointments could account for this measure not reaching its target.
- Among Albertans who had personally accessed hospital services in Alberta in the past 12 months, **68 per cent rated ease of access to hospital services as very easy or easy, under the target of 73 per cent**.
- Albertans' overall rating of ease of access to hospital services has remained fairly constant over the past five years. Long wait times in some urban emergency departments could account for this measure not reaching its target. Health infrastructure projects are planned or are currently underway that will help build capacity and improve access to hospital services.

Public Rating of Health System Overall (audited)(31)
Rating as excellent or good.



- **A 2009 survey of Albertans age 18 and older found that 63 per cent rated the health system overall as excellent or good, up from 2008 but less than the target of 70 per cent.**
- Albertans' overall rating of the health system has been improving over the past three years.
- Expanding service capacity, including increasing Alberta's health workforce and health infrastructure along with system redesigns are helping to improve access and the public's experiences within the health system.

Life Expectancy at Birth (unaudited)(32)
Years of life for males and females.



- **In 2008, the life expectancy at birth for males was 78.2 years, slightly above the 2008-09 target of 78.0 years while for females, it was 82.9 years, slightly below the target of 83.0 years.**
- Life expectancy for males and females has been slowly and steadily increasing in Alberta. Improvements in primary care, health promotion and disease prevention, as well as medical advancements have all positively contributed to improving life expectancy.
- Life expectancy at birth is a universally recognized indicator of the general health and well-being of a population.

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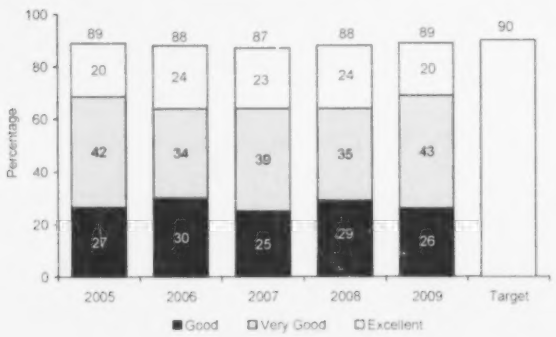
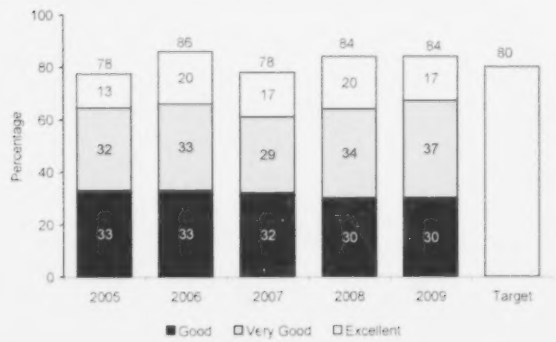
Performance Measures

Self-reported Health Status (unaudited)(33)

– 18 to 64 years – rating as excellent, very good or good.

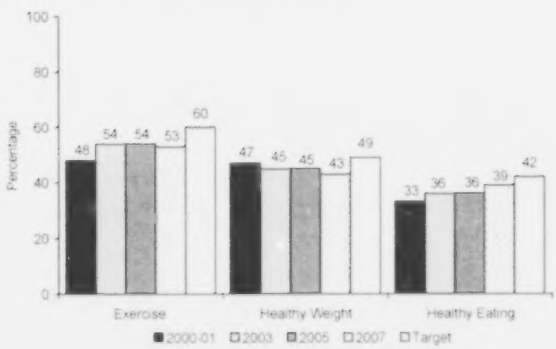


– 65 years and over – rating as excellent, very good or good.



Participation in Healthy Behaviour (unaudited)(34)

Exercise, healthy weight and healthy eating.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **In 2009, 89 per cent of Albertans age 18 to 64 years reported that their health was excellent, very good or good, slightly under the target of 90 per cent.**
- The percentage of Albertans reporting their health as either good, very good or excellent has remained fairly constant over the past five years.
- Self-reported health status is generally seen as good indicator of the health and well-being of Albertans. It is accepted across Canada as a means of reporting on population health.

- **In 2009, 84 per cent of Albertans age 65 years and over reported that their health was excellent, very good or good, exceeding the target of 80 per cent.**
- Alberta has numerous health prevention programs to help keep those 65 years and older healthy. These programs include influenza vaccinations and improved access to disease screening for breast and prostate cancer, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.
- A new provincial Continuing Care Strategy was released in December 2008, to improve health and personal care service options for seniors. The strategy will improve health and personal care service options for seniors and persons with disabilities by enhancing supports to help them live within the community.

- Results from the 2007 Canadian Community Health Survey indicate that **just over half (53 per cent) of Albertans age 12 and over are active or moderately active in physical activity. This is below the target of 60 per cent.**
- **Only 43 per cent of Albertans age 12 and older had a healthy weight in 2007, under the target of 49 per cent.**
- **About four in ten (39 per cent) of Albertans ate at least five servings of fruits and vegetables each day, below the target of 42 per cent.**
- Living a healthy lifestyle greatly contributes to an improved quality and length of life. Government initiatives such as Healthy U have been promoting the benefits of healthy eating and active living. More work is needed to encourage Albertans to make healthy choices.

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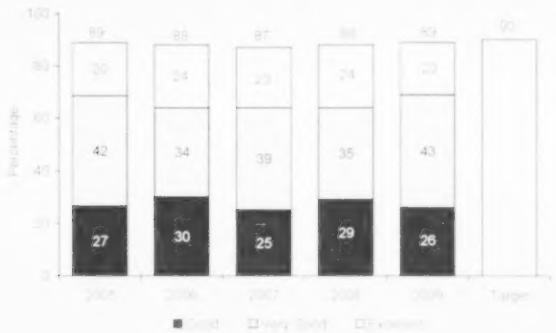
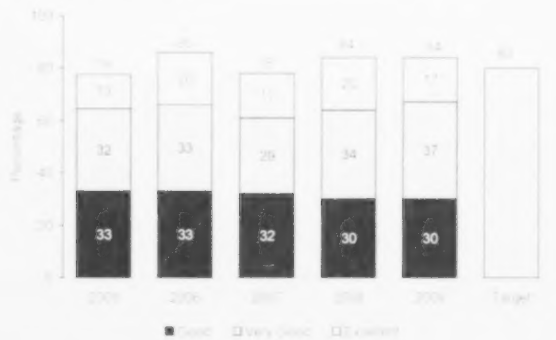
Performance Measures

Self-reported Health Status (unaudited) (S)

– **18 to 64 years** – rating as excellent, very good or good

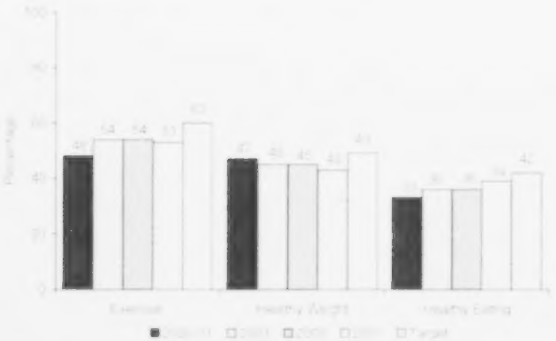


– **65 years and over** – rating as excellent, very good or good



Participation in Healthy Behaviour (unaudited) (S)

Exercise, healthy weight and healthy eating



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **In 2009, 89 per cent of Albertans age 18 to 64 years reported that their health was excellent, very good or good, slightly under the target of 90 per cent.**
- The percentage of Albertans reporting their health as either good, very good or excellent has remained fairly constant over the past five years.
- Self-reported health status is generally seen as good indicator of the health and well-being of Albertans. It is accepted across Canada as a means of reporting on population health.

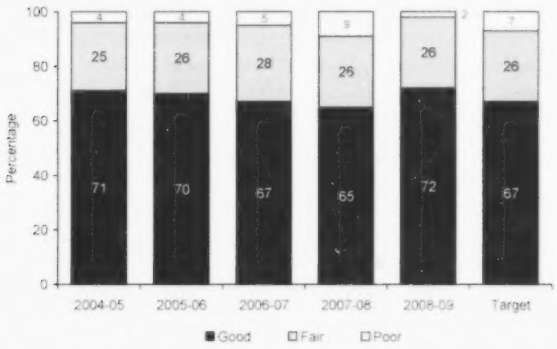
- **In 2009, 84 per cent of Albertans age 65 years and over reported that their health was excellent, very good or good, exceeding the target of 80 per cent.**
- Alberta has numerous health prevention programs to help keep those 65 years and older healthy. These programs include influenza vaccinations and improved access to disease screening for breast and prostate cancer, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.
- A new provincial Continuing Care Strategy was released in December 2008, to improve health and personal care service options for seniors. The strategy will improve health and personal care service options for seniors and persons with disabilities by enhancing supports to help them live within the community.

- Results from the 2007 Canadian Community Health Survey indicate that **just over half (53 per cent) of Albertans age 12 and over are active or moderately active in physical activity. This is below the target of 60 per cent.**
- **Only 43 per cent of Albertans age 12 and older had a healthy weight in 2007, under the target of 49 per cent.**
- **About four in ten (39 per cent) of Albertans ate at least five servings of fruits and vegetables each day, below the target of 42 per cent.**
- Living a healthy lifestyle greatly contributes to an improved quality and length of life. Government initiatives such as Healthy U have been promoting the benefits of healthy eating and active living. More work is needed to encourage Albertans to make healthy choices.

For more detailed information on the measures and data, see page 87 of this document.

Performance Measures

Physical Condition of Health Facilities (unaudited)(35)
Health facilities in good, fair or poor condition.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **In 2008-09, 72 per cent of health facilities were rated in good condition, which exceeded the target of 67 per cent.**
- $60.3 million in supplementary maintenance funding was provided to health regions in 2008-09 from the Capital Maintenance and Renewal Fund in addition to the scheduled allocation of $73.7 million.
- This funding had a positive impact on the 2008-09 results; however, the most significant influence on future year results (and future year targets) is expected to be from a continuation of facility evaluations and the completion of major capital projects.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

GOAL SIX

6 Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

What the Goal Means

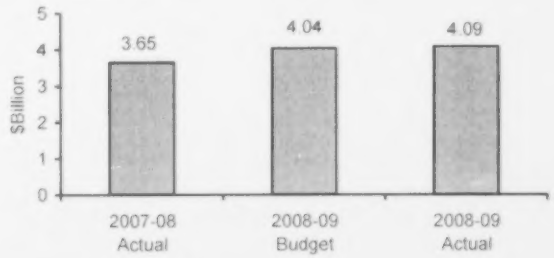
To help all Albertans be as independent as possible, those who are facing challenges associated with aging, disabilities, lower incomes and other special needs will receive support to help them fully participate in society. Supports include justice services for those unable to protect their financial interests or who cannot afford legal counsel, initiatives aimed at facilitating seniors' continued participation in their communities and strategies to improve quality of housing and reduce homelessness. These supports, along with human resource development, help Albertans be as independent as possible, move to employment and stay in the labour force.

Families are the foundation to nurture the development of children and youth and provide supports that ensure that children and youth, are physically, emotionally, socially, intellectually and spiritually healthy and safe will reduce future strains on social infrastructure. Although parents have the primary responsibility in raising and providing for their children, communities, organizations, schools, businesses and governments all have supporting roles to play.

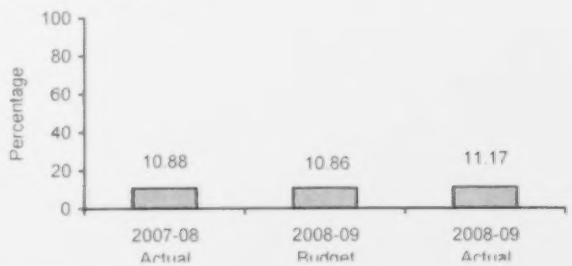
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $4,094.0 million to assist Albertans to become self-reliant and assist those unable to provide for their basic needs as well as to promote the well-being of children.

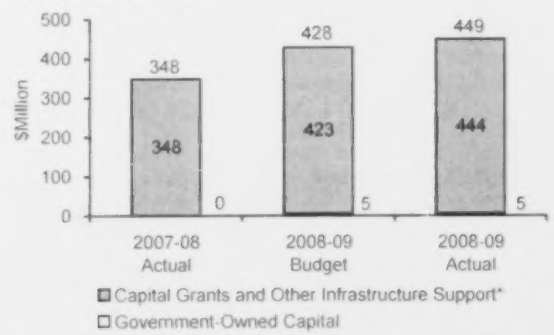
Goal Six Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending

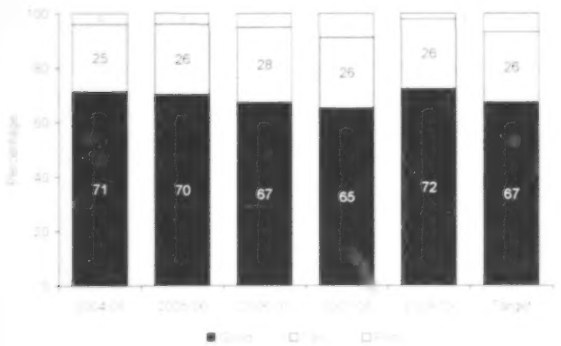


* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense

Albertans will be healthy

Performance Measures

Physical Condition of Health Facilities (unaudited/AS)
Health facilities in good, fair or poor condition



Results Analysis (unaudited)

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GOAL SIX

6 Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

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Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

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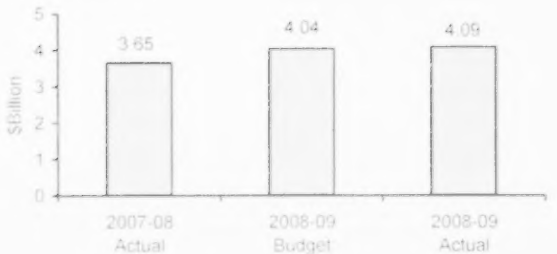
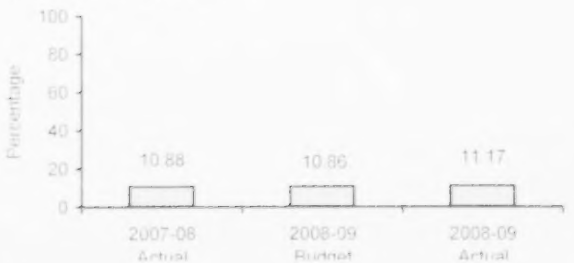
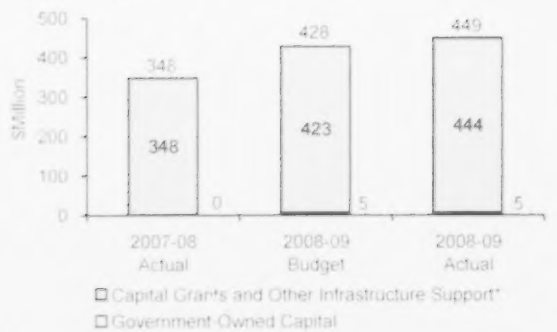
Goal Six Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Continue to implement the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Initiative by expanding provincial support for programs aimed at preventing domestic violence and providing support for families that are victims of domestic violence, including programming to Aboriginal and immigrant communities as well as expanding the use of multidisciplinary teams to address crises in communities. (Children and Youth Services)	**Government implemented six community-based family violence victim support outreach pilot sites (two in Edmonton, two in Calgary, two rural).** A number of initiatives were also developed to help Aboriginal and immigrant communities respond to family violence and bullying by way of a Family Violence Information Line with help available in over 170 languages and print advertising in five Aboriginal publications. A provincial family violence and bullying response training framework was developed to support front-line responders such as law enforcement officers and mental health workers. The number of funded women's emergency shelter beds in highly utilized women's emergency shelters across Alberta was increased and a child care program was developed to deliver specialized child care supports to children exposed to family violence.
Develop 11,000 affordable housing units by 2012. (Housing and Urban Affairs)	**Government committed funds for the development of 2,955 affordable housing units in partnership with municipalities, nonprofit and private sector organizations.**
Develop the ten-year plan to address homelessness. (Housing and Urban Affairs)	**Government accepted the report and recommendations from the Alberta Secretariat for Action on Homelessness to end homelessness in ten years.**
Help Albertans stay in their homes through the Rent Supplement Program and the Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Fund. (Housing and Urban Affairs)	**Program guidelines for the Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Fund were reviewed and strengthened and a plan to transition the delivery of rent shortfall benefits was developed.**
Make additional public land available for affordable housing purposes. (Housing and Urban Affairs)	**Government committed to develop 1,000 acres to support over 20,000 people in 8,000 units of which 1,000 will be dedicated to affordable housing.**
Work to enhance permanency and ensure that Aboriginal children remain connected to their culture. Government will also work with Delegated First Nation Agencies to implement intervention and prevention services for children, youth and families living on reserve. The provincial government will implement processes to enhance service quality for the Family Support for Children with Disabilities Program, including the implementation of service standards and strategies to enhance access and resource capacity in rural communities. In addition, government will **implement legislative changes to protect children and youth from sexual exploitation** and strategies to support positive outcomes for high risk youth. (Children and Youth Services)	**In collaboration with a provincial Aboriginal committee, the government developed and implemented a foster parent and Aboriginal caregiver recruitment campaign and expanded support and public recognition for Aboriginal foster parents**. Delegated First Nation Agencies were assisted in implementing new family enhancement programs on reserves, including assisting with recruitment and training of family enhancement caseworkers. **The government funded Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) Stepping Stones pilot projects to provide parents of children with disabilities greater skills and confidence in managing their child's behaviour**. Twenty-six families have completed the program; another 48 are currently with a practitioner in the program. **The *Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act* (PSECA) was enhanced to provide better assessment of needs for sexually exploited children, youth, young adults and their families.** PSECA practice standards were developed and implemented in October 2008.

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Assist victim services organizations to **provide a more meaningful role for victims in the criminal justice system** and identify opportunities to implement strategies for the provision of improved services for victims of crime in all Alberta communities. Work with community partners to **enhance community capacity to respond to victims of crime**. (Solicitor General and Public Security)	The government introduced CANTALK a translation service provided over the phone in over 175 dialects. Victim advocates and service providers are able to access this service free of charge, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. **Culturally specific Aboriginal training was offered to victim service providers and 76 per cent of the recommendations of the Victims of Crime Consultation Report were instituted.** The government supported specialized services for victims such as those offered by: Project KARE; the Zebra Child Protection Centre which supports child victims of abuse; the SAFFRON Strathcona Sexual Assault Centre; and HOMEFRONT, which provides a leading edge coordinated response to domestic violence in the Calgary area.
Ensure that persons with disabilities who wish to work have the opportunity and the supports to participate in Alberta's strong economy. Government will coordinate and improve employment supports by refining existing programs and policies to remove barriers to employment. Government will provide increased employability incentives including an increase in the amount that can be earned by individual Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) recipients with a corresponding increase for families. (Seniors and Community Supports)	**Government increased the AISH employment income exemption on July 1, 2008 so that Albertans receiving assistance through the AISH program can now earn more money and still remain eligible for financial assistance**. Over 7,000 AISH clients and/or their co-habiting partner are now working. In addition to providing more income, having a job helps people connect with the community and increase their independence. Cross-ministry work was initiated to improve employment for persons with disabilities and research was conducted on best practices in employment programs and services for persons with disabilities. **In addition, government worked with community partners to provide employment services across the province to enable approximately 600 AISH clients to develop essential employment skills**.
Implement strategies to improve recruitment and retention of child care professionals and identify strategies to support the creation of 14,000 child care spaces by 2011, including in-school and out-of-school care, family day homes and day cares. Government will provide low and middle income families with subsidies to cover the cost for out-of-school child care. In addition, government will be introducing new child care licensing regulations that will expand the range of child care options available to parents. (Children and Youth Services)	**The government implemented strategies to increase and sustain quality child care spaces, recruit and retain child care staff and provide assistance to low and middle income families**. To further these goals, the *Child Care Licensing Act* and regulation was proclaimed on November 1, 2008. Support was also provided for the creation of more than 8,000 new child care spaces in licensed and approved programs. An Out-of-School Care Subsidy Program was implemented and staff retention encouraged with child care staff wage top-ups provided to an average of 7,000 staff per month working in day care and family day home programs and an average of 2,500 staff per month working in out-of-school care programs.

GOAL SIX

6 Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Continue to **build collaborative partnerships on initiatives such as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Prevention of Family Violence and Bullying and Community Spirit Program**. Develop options to review and improve Alberta's social infrastructure and engage in collaborative evidence-based decision-making that supports policy development through research and evaluation leading to better outcomes for children, youth and families. Government will work with the Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research and Child and Youth Data Lab to promote relevant research and information to support strategies and policies. (Children and Youth Services)	**Priorities within Alberta's Prevention of Family Violence and Bullying Strategy were implemented** including locally based projects through the Community Incentive Fund, expanding the safe visitation program for high-risk family violence situations, funding additional victim supports and support for community-based agencies working together with the local communities and schools to address family violence and bullying. The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Service Network Program was expanded from seven to 12 networks, with the support of government, to help coordinate targeted prevention programs, assessment and diagnosis services and support those affected by the disorder and their families across the province.

GOAL SIX

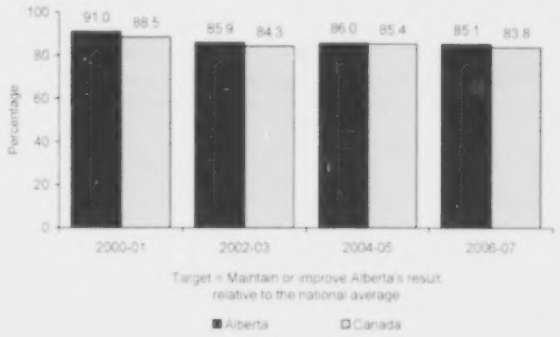
6 Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

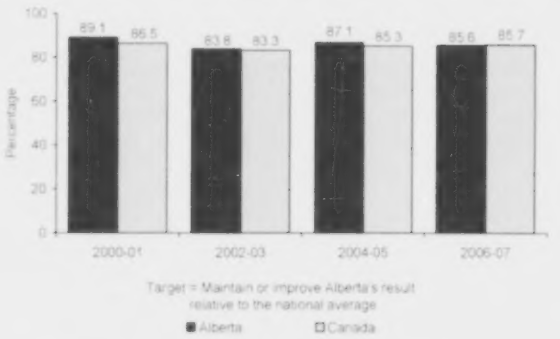
Social and Emotional Development (audited)(36)

– **Social Development** – percentage of Alberta children demonstrating healthy social development.



- **In 2006-07, 85.1 per cent of Alberta's children demonstrated healthy social development, meeting the target to maintain or improve Alberta's results relative to the national average.**
- **Although this target has been met**, the results have been gradually declining both nationally and provincially. A methodological change in 2002-2003, when thresholds or cut-off points for social development were changed, may have contributed to an increase in the percentage of children exhibiting low levels of healthy social development.

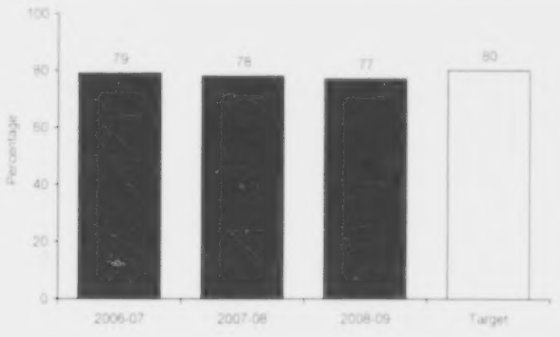
– **Emotional Development** – percentage of Alberta children demonstrating healthy emotional development.



- **In 2006-07, 85.6 per cent of Alberta's children demonstrated healthy emotional development, slightly below the target to maintain or improve Alberta's results relative to the national average by 0.1 per cent. The difference between the target and result is not significant.**
- The government funds a range of services in many communities throughout the province aimed at providing supports to parents and families to assist with their child's learning, development and health, such as Parent Link Centres. Parent Link Centres, which have been fully operational across the province in 2006-07, provide support for parents and families that promote healthy child development.

Support for Albertans with Severe Disabilities (audited)(37)

Percentage of Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) clients who report that personal benefits help them live more independently.



- **In 2008-09, 77 per cent of AISH clients who received personal benefits reported that these benefits helped them to live more independently than if they had been unable to access these benefits.**
- **The results of this measure did not meet the target of 80 per cent.** Results, however, do show stability with no significant differences between years.
- Albertans with severe disabilities are supported through the AISH program, which provides a living allowance, health benefits and personal benefits to adults with a permanent disability that severely impairs their ability to earn a livelihood. Personal benefits help AISH clients with extra monthly or one-time expenses and are available to clients with assets of $3,000 or less. These supports include benefits for child care, infant needs, special diets, service animals, medical supplies or equipment and training or employment supports.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

GOAL SIX

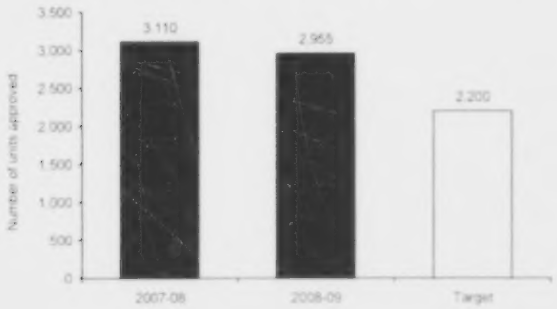
6 Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Affordable Housing Units (audited)(38)

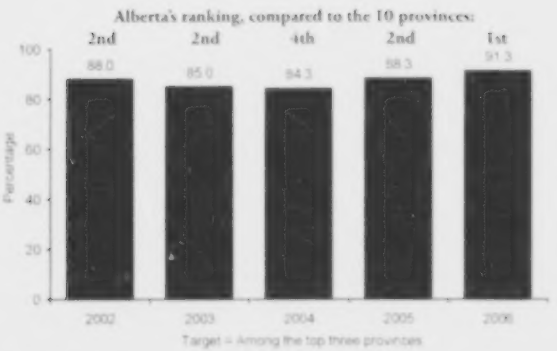
Number of affordable housing units developed with support from provincial funding.



- **Results in 2008-09 were higher than the target of 2,200 developed in response to the Housing Task Force Report. Under an earlier initiative, in 2005-07, 1,383 affordable housing units were developed with support from provincial funding.**
- Demand for affordable housing is influenced by population increases, vacancy and rental rates, personal income levels and employment rates.
- Innovative approaches used by government to create affordable housing included the construction of new rental units, development of secondary suites in private dwellings, the conversion of non-residential space to residential units, the purchase and renovation of existing rental accommodation units and other priorities as identified by municipalities.

Well-being of Children (unaudited)(39)

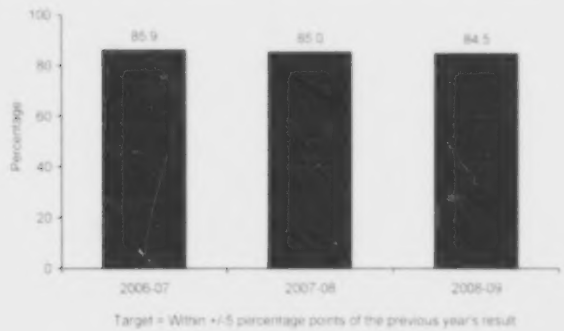
Percentage of children living in families with incomes at or above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low-income thresholds (inter-provincial rank).



- **In 2006, 91.3 per cent of Alberta's children were living at or above the MBM low-income thresholds. Alberta improved upon its previous years' results and ranked first in the percentage of children living at or above the low-income thresholds compared to other provinces.**
- The MBM is a measure of low-income which considers the cost of a specific basket of goods and services in different communities across Canada.
- The Alberta government provides programs and services that are designed to support Albertans in meeting their children's needs. Children living in families with low incomes may qualify for various government programs and services such as premium-free health, dental and optical services, income support, child support services, childcare subsidies and recreational opportunities.

Support for Albertans with Low Incomes (unaudited)(40)

Percentage of Alberta's Income Support clients receiving health benefits coverage in addition to core benefits.



- **In 2008-09, 84.5 per cent of all Income Support recipients received the health benefits coverage in addition to core benefits.** This result is nearly unchanged from the previous year and **thus met the desired target**.
- This result demonstrated support provided to a vulnerable population in Alberta society (e.g., individuals receiving expected to work benefits and not expected to work benefits).
- Albertans who are eligible for Income Support also receive health benefits for themselves and their dependents unless they receive coverage through other sources. Benefits include prescription drugs and essential over-the-counter medications, eye exams and glasses, dental care, emergency ambulance services and essential diabetic supplies.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measure methodology at www.alberta.ca.

GOAL SIX

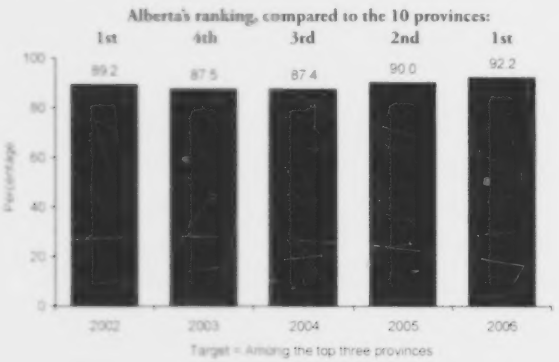
6 Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Economic Status of Albertans (unaudited)(41)

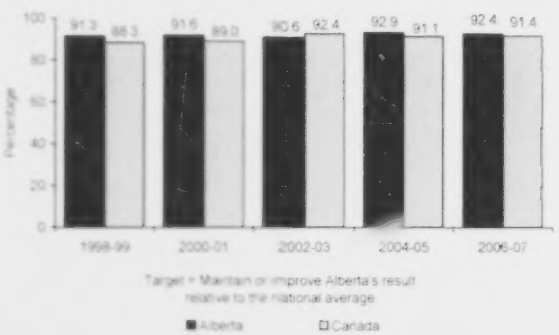
Percentage of Albertans living at or above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low-income thresholds (inter-provincial rank).



- **In 2006, 92.2 per cent of Albertans were living at or above the MBM low-income thresholds. Alberta improved upon its previous years' results and ranked first in the percentage of all persons living at or above the low-income thresholds compared to other provinces.**
- The MBM is a measure of low-income which considers the cost of a specific basket of goods and services in different communities across Canada.
- Government programs and policies have an impact on the actual purchasing power and disposable income of households (e.g., the costs of child care services, medical and dental products and services and aids for persons with disabilities). The Alberta government also provides focused skills training opportunities and other financial benefits and supports to enable clients to get a job or substantially improve their employment situation.

Parenting Skills (unaudited)(42)

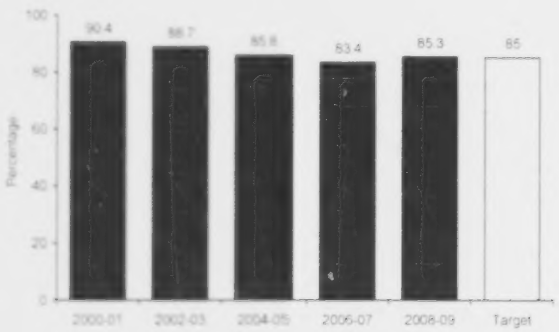
Percentage of Alberta children age 0-5 whose parents are interacting positively with them.



- **In 2006-07, 92.4 per cent of Albertan children were interacting positively with their parents, meeting the target of maintaining or improving Alberta's results relative to the national average.**
- The government funds a range of services in many communities throughout the province aimed at providing supports to parents and families including Parent Link Centres (PLCs) which have been fully operating across the province since 2006-07. The five core service areas provided by PLCs – information and referral, early childhood development programming, parent education, family support and developmental screening – focus on providing supports to parents and families that foster healthy child development and positive parenting.
- Home visitation is another service area that provides supports to families and has had a positive impact on parenting skills.

Support for Albertans with Developmental Disabilities (unaudited)(43)

Satisfaction of families/guardians of adults with developmental disabilities with Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD)-funded services.



- **In 2008-09, survey results indicated that 85.3 per cent of families or guardians (public and private) reported overall satisfaction with PDD-funded services received by the person for whom they provide guardianship.**
- **The results met the target of 85 per cent** and increased from 2006-07.
- The PDD program provides adults with developmental disabilities with living, employment and community access supports, which assist them in participating in the social, economic and cultural life of the province.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

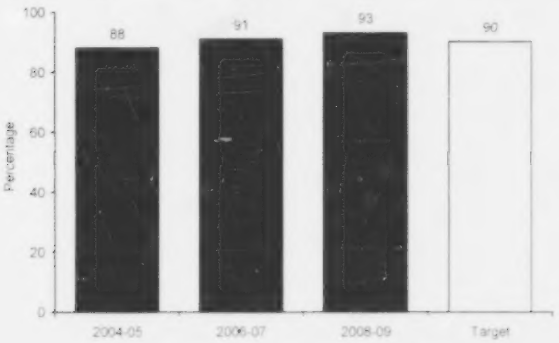
GOAL SIX **6** **Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for**

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Support for Families with Low Income with Children (unaudited)(44)

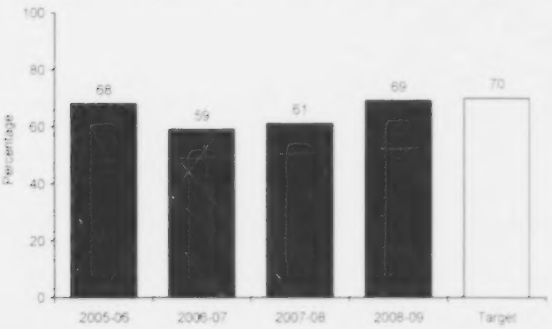
Percentage of Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB) parents who agree they are able to obtain health services they would not otherwise have been able to get for their children.



- **Of all ACHB parents surveyed in 2008-09, 93 per cent agreed that they were able to obtain health services they would not otherwise have been able to get for their children.** The result exceeded the target of 90 per cent by seven percentage points, which reflects parents' high satisfaction level with the effectiveness of the ACHB program.
- The ACHB provides coverage for prescription drugs, eyeglasses, dental care, emergency ambulance services and essential diabetic supplies. This program is designed to help reduce the depth of child poverty, improve standards for living for parents with children under 18 and promote parents' attachment to the workforce.
- The Alberta government ensures maximum accessibility to this program through a partnership with Canada Revenue Agency which last year mailed over 55,000 ACHB applications and program information packages to Alberta households below ACHB income thresholds.

Support for Albertans with Low Income who Need Temporary Help (unaudited)(45)

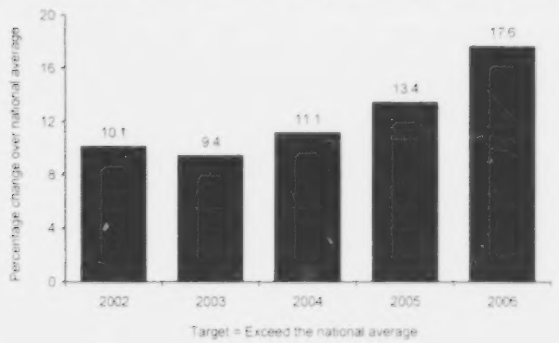
Percentage of participants employed after leaving Income Support.



- **In 2008-09, Income Support participants who left the program between April and August 2008 were surveyed three months after leaving the program. Out of these clients, 69 per cent were employed after leaving the program.**
- Labour market conditions, prior education and work experience can affect the employment outcomes of participants.
- Those who left the program without obtaining employment most likely entered new partnerships or received support from other sources (Canadian Pension Plan, Employment Insurance or disability-related income).

Seniors' Average Total Income (unaudited)(46)

Difference between Alberta seniors' average total income and the national average for seniors' total income.



- **In 2006, the average total income of Alberta seniors exceeded the average total income of Canadian seniors by 17.6 per cent.** This represents a continuation of the trend whereby Alberta's seniors have higher average total incomes than Canadian seniors as a whole.
- In 2006, the average total income of Alberta seniors was $37,311 as compared to $31,722, the comparable amount for Canadian seniors.
- The incomes of seniors are comprised of a number of different sources, including government transfers, payments from the Canada Pension Plan, private pensions, investments and employment income.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta....

GOAL SEVEN 7

Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

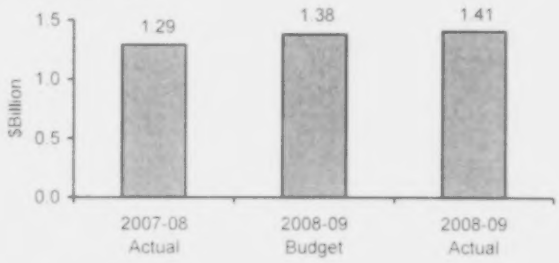
What the Goal Means

Albertans want communities in which they can live and raise their families in safety and security without the fear of personal or property crime, victimization or discrimination. An effective and efficient securities regulatory system is important to investor protection. Effective protection of people and property from fire, floods, dangerous encounters with wildlife and harmful environmental events, as well as from natural, industrial, accidental and terrorist hazards is also an important part of this goal. Albertans expect buildings and systems that are constructed and maintained to safe standards and workplaces that are healthy, fair, safe and stable for employees and employers. Albertans also want to see traffic safety improved to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities on our highways.

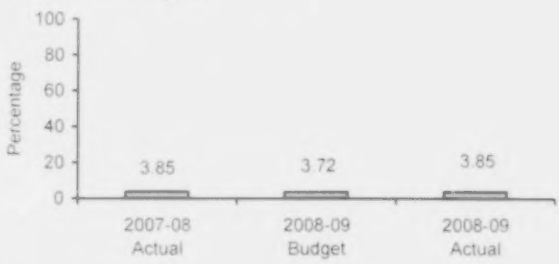
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Government of Alberta directed $1,412.0 million toward the protection of persons and property.

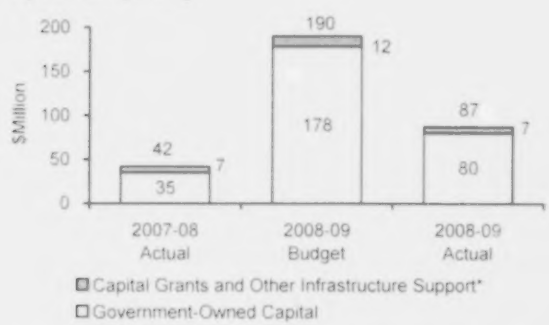
Goal Seven Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense

7 Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Enhance the capacity of the prosecution service to effectively prosecute serious and violent crime, including where appropriate making dangerous and long-term offender applications. This will be accomplished in part by adding prosecution and support staff. An intensive review will be conducted of the prosecution service and work with stakeholders to streamline the criminal justice system. (Justice)	**Government worked to enhance the prosecution of serious and violent crime and make dangerous and long-term offender applications when in the public interest.** Over the last year, 61 new legal officers, paralegals and legal assistants have been recruited. **The criminal justice system will also make more efficient and effective use of limited court and Crown time and resources through the Court Case Management (CCM) initiative.** Through CCM, Crown prosecutors will assume responsibility for a case from the beginning to the end of the court process. CCM is scheduled to be implemented early in 2010.
Add 300 additional police officers over the next three years. Discuss options for achieving this priority with the various policing agencies in the province. (Solicitor General and Public Security)	**Seven million dollars was provided to Alberta municipalities to enable the hiring of one hundred new provincially funded frontline officers now on the street.** One hundred new police officer positions for 2009-10 have been allocated and funds will follow the signing of grant agreements.
Coordinate policing services to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery. Lead the development of a new provincial policing framework that addresses the dimensions of service delivery, governance and funding that **ensures effective coordination of federal, provincial and municipal enforcement and public security agencies.** Adopt innovative common technology approaches to: link first responder radio systems; establish a Police and Peace Officer Training Centre to streamline law enforcement training; and establish the Alberta Police Integrated Information Initiative. (Solicitor General and Public Security)	Following up on the recommendations from the 2007 Roundtable on the Future of Policing, **a new Law Enforcement Framework is being developed in consultation with stakeholders that will coordinate law enforcement to maximize effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery.** The new framework will modernize the organization and deployment of police services to better address the complexity of law enforcement today, meet the changing needs of communities and address current challenges facing policing. **A province-wide radio communication system is being developed to link first responder agencies (police, fire, EMS) and government departments.** This will replace the outdated RCMP and government Multi-Departmental Mobile Radio System by improving communications across agencies and jurisdictions. **The Alberta Police Integrated Information Initiative is a new provincial law information management system that is under development** to increase collaboration and information sharing between all municipal and First Nation police agencies, the RCMP and the Alberta sheriffs. The new system will enhance public and police officer safety in addition to improving the interoperability of the police agencies.
Establish a Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) Investigative Unit to target organized crime, as part of the implementation of the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*. (Solicitor General and Public Security)	**Two new sheriffs' units were established to investigate public complaints about properties being used for illegal activities.** SCAN investigators also completed a seven-week training program and became fully operational in Calgary and Edmonton. SCAN investigators respond to confidential complaints from the public and conduct investigations to determine whether there is enough evidence to support a complaint. As of January 2009, 208 complaints had been received, of which 177 have been successfully investigated and concluded.

GOAL SEVEN

7 Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Priorities identified through stakeholder consultations will be implemented to **build inclusive organizations and communities and to help reduce barriers that exclude some Albertans**. Priority will also be placed on promoting the benefits of human rights, diversity and inclusion and supporting the integration of immigrants. (Culture and Community Spirit)	Government provided input into the national strategic plan for the Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination. **A Welcome and Inclusive Communities partnership was formed with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association to assist communities in being welcoming and inclusive** and to support municipalities that had joined the Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination. This partnership is the only one of its kind in Canada. Government explored ways to improve the coordination of responses to growth-related challenges in communities, especially as they relate to international migrants. **Consultation and advice was provided to rural communities to help them build more inclusive communities through attraction and retention of immigrants and Canadian migrants**. Government led an initiative in partnership with human rights commissions across Canada to develop an interactive youth-oriented website to increase youth engagement and participation in human rights issues.
Work with partners, stakeholders and communities to implement recommendations from the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force Report, including the establishment of a Safe Communities Secretariat, to achieve a future in which Albertans will experience less crime, feel less fearful of crime and make their communities safer places to live and work. (Justice; and Solicitor General and Public Security)	**The Safe Communities Secretariat was established to coordinate and implement the recommendations of the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force**. The Secretariat facilitated a number of key initiatives across the government which included: developing an integrated approach to reducing gang crime activities; targeting repeat offenders who are collectively responsible for a significant amount of crime; enhancing the treatment component of family violence courts; increasing the number of addiction and mental health treatment beds; establishing the Safe Communities Innovation Grant Fund to help at-risk people and their families and crime reduction programs to help make neighbourhoods and communities safer; establishing Safer Communities and Neighbourhood Units to enforce the recently proclaimed *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*; establishing the Civil Forfeiture Office to enforce the provisions of the *Victims Restitution and Compensation Payment Act* which allows for the seizure of the proceeds of crime and the compensation of victims and communities affected by those crimes; and increasing the number of police officers, Crown prosecutors and probation officers.
Implement the Blueprint for the Future of Corrections to address current and projected population pressures in remand and correctional centres. Work with justice system partners to identify possible solutions to reduce adult custody populations, without negatively impacting public safety. (Solicitor General and Public Security)	**The Blueprint for the Future of Corrections includes strategies to enhance staff recruitment, training, retention and engagement in the province's correctional system and apply best practices for managing custody and community supervision populations**. The government continues to develop and implement best practices for the management of offender populations that include: evidence-based offender risk needs assessment tools; training staff in motivational interviewing and direct supervision; integrated information technology and sharing; and electronic monitoring of selected offenders.
To meet the changing needs of Alberta's workplaces, **update and develop new information on employment standards, labour relations and occupational health and safety for workers and employers.** Continue to review programs and associated legislation on an ongoing basis so workers and employers have the tools they need to respond to changes in the workplace and maintain fair, safe and healthy work environments. (Employment and Immigration)	**To help raise workplace safety awareness among young workers, an online campaign was launched at www.bloodylucky.ca**. Also, to help ensure that temporary foreign workers are well-informed of their workplace rights, the Temporary Workers Have Permanent Rights Campaign was launched on foreign-language radio and in newspapers. Government introduced Bill 1, *Employment Standards (Reservist Leave) Amendment Act, 2009* to provide unpaid job protection to reservists while they are serving their country. Government also enacted Bill 26, *Labour Relations Amendment Act, 2008* and the Market Enhancement Recovery Fund Distribution Regulation.

GOAL SEVEN

7 Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Work with other Canadian jurisdictions to develop and implement an effective and efficient securities regulatory system standardized across Canada that meets the needs of Alberta's businesses and investors. (Finance and Enterprise)	Alberta has taken a leadership role, working with other Canadian jurisdictions to continue to modernize and harmonize the Canadian securities regulatory system. The efficient and effective regulation of securities markets contributes to investor confidence and protection and promotes healthy financial markets in support of economic growth. **Alberta amended its *Securities Act* to further harmonize and streamline securities laws and to support an interjurisdictional passport system** that will allow market participants to deal with their home and principal regulator and comply with one set of harmonized laws across all participating provinces.
Work with the government of British Columbia and other stakeholders on the application of the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) to private sector pensions, insurance and financial institutions. (Finance and Enterprise)	**The government appointed members to, and supported, the Alberta/British Columbia Joint Expert Panel on Pension Standards, which made recommendations for building a stronger, harmonized pension standards system for the two provinces.** Alberta amended and modernized its *Insurance Act* in order to provide an updated framework for insurance contracts, strengthen consumer protection and address issues identified by consumers and other stakeholders. This work was done in conjunction with British Columbia in an effort to harmonize standards between the two jurisdictions. Barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility in the financial services sector were identified and harmonized within the context of TILMA and constitutional considerations.
Focus on Alternative Dispute Resolution options in collaboration with a wide variety of stakeholders to meet the needs of both litigants and service providers, to **help litigants resolve their disputes efficiently and effectively and in ways that best meet their needs.** (Justice)	**To meet the needs of clients, the government has been enhancing options for resolving disputes** through the development of a policy and procedure manual for the Provincial Court Civil Claims Mediation Program and examining ways to deliver mediation services online and through video and teleconferencing. In addition, consultations have commenced on a program design for a new court annexed dispute resolution process for the Court of Queen's Bench.
Partner with the federal government to support their efforts to establish appropriate penalties for serious crimes. Participate with the federal government and interested provincial or territorial governments in a review of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*. (Justice)	**More effective sentencing measures for high-risk offenders, tougher mandatory prison sentences for serious gun crimes and new bail provisions for those accused of serious gun crimes were implemented under the federal *Tackling Violent Crime Act*.** Alberta has also communicated its concerns to the federal government regarding the overall structure and complexity of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, including its sentencing provisions. The federal government committed to conducting a comprehensive review of the Act.
Increase the level of coordination between all stakeholders in Alberta relating to emergency management roles and responsibilities and the use of emergency management resources to **ensure fully-integrated and comprehensive responses can be provided for all emergency events in the province.** This will involve working with all public, private and volunteer sector partners to achieve a variety of strategic emergency management objectives. (Municipal Affairs)	**Government increased the scope of responsibilities of the Agency Response Readiness Centre (ARRC), allowing it to assess initial emergency calls and to provide emergency management information to partners and stakeholders, on a 24/7/365 basis.** On several occasions, the ARRC investigated and evaluated a potential emergency situation, then seamlessly handed-off responsibility for coordination to the Government Emergency Operations Centre. Coordination across the Government of Alberta and with all municipal, federal and industrial partners was enhanced in several ways including comprehensive reviews following large-scale events, consultations with emergency management partners and technical upgrades to the Government Emergency Operations Centre and its field-deployable assets.

GOAL SEVEN

7 Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies

The Alberta Traffic Safety Plan (including the Three-Year Traffic Safety Action Plan) will **improve traffic safety** through effective communications, community traffic safety, public education and awareness, research and evidence-based decisions, sustained enforcement, engineering and infrastructure improvements and legislation based on leading practices. These efforts aim to change driver behaviours and attitudes to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities. (Transportation)

Progress Report

Government continued to forge ahead with the *Alberta Traffic Safety Plan: Saving Lives on Alberta's Roads*, including key initiatives to help prevent motor vehicle collisions, enforce traffic laws, build safer roads and better educate Albertans about traffic safety. The province introduced the *2008-10 Alberta Traffic Safety Communications Plan* to educate road users on safe driving basics and habits, as well as to promote positive driver attitudes. The findings of a report, *Ensuring the Safety of our Children: A Report on School Bus Safety in Alberta*, were issued and the province began implementing the recommendations to improve school bus transportation for children across the province.

Government also launched the Community Mobilization Strategy to engage and support local law enforcement, health, education and industry groups in meeting community-based Alberta Traffic Safety Plan objectives which included an Aboriginal Traffic Safety Strategy. The government took further measures to reduce impaired driving by introducing the new mandatory Ignition Interlock Program, the Enhanced Alberta Checkstop Program and the enabling of license suspensions for drug impairment.

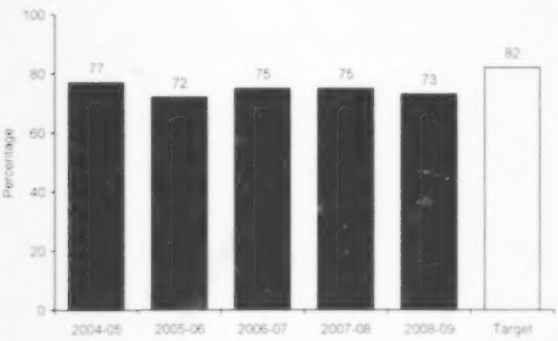
Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood (audited)(47)

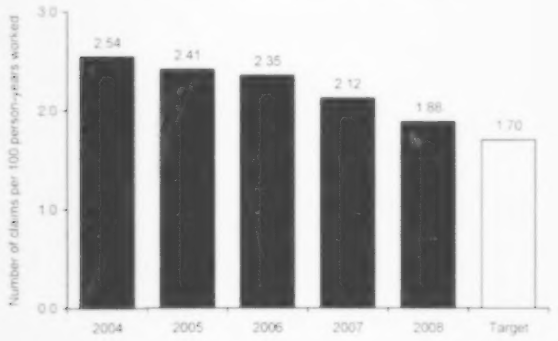
The percentage of Albertans who feel reasonably safe to very safe walking alone in their area after dark.



- Perceptions of crime in the community are shaped by a number of factors including citizens' previous victimization experience, the experiences of friends and family and media reports of crime. **This year's result of 73 per cent represents a two percentage point decrease from the previous year and is lower than the target of 82 per cent.** However, 91 per cent of Albertans felt safe in their homes.
- Eighty-two per cent has been a stretch target for the government; set with the intention of reaching an ideal level of performance. The results of this measure have been relatively stable over time, ranging over the past eight years from a high of 78 per cent in 2001-02 to a low of 72 per cent in 2005-06.
- Factors that may have potentially influenced the result included heightened media exposure of high profile criminal cases as well as focused media coverage on the Safe Communities Initiative.

Workplace Lost-time Claim Rate (audited)(48)

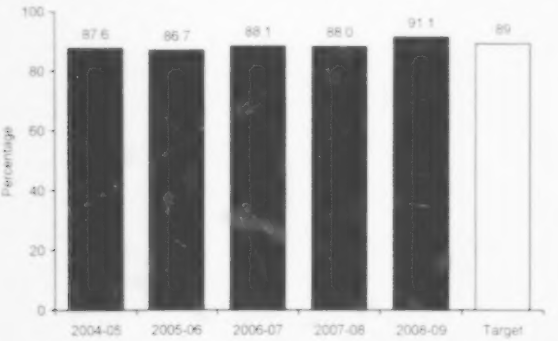
Number of lost-time claims per 100 person-years worked.



- **In 2008, the provincial lost-time claim rate was 1.88, missing the target of 1.70. This marked the eighth straight year however that the rate has dropped.**
- There were fewer workplace injuries in Alberta in 2008. This, combined with a growing workforce, resulted in a record low lost-time claim rate.
- The Alberta government continued to build upon the success of the Work Safe Alberta Initiative and implemented new approaches to further promote, educate and increase the awareness of Albertans on workplace health and safety issues.

Effectiveness of Human Rights Protection (audited)(49)

Percentage of adult Albertans who believe human rights are fairly well or very well protected in Alberta.



- **In 2008-09, 91.1 per cent of adult Albertans felt that human rights were fairly well or very well protected in Alberta. Results exceeded the target and results from previous years.**
- Key factors that could influence the results include media coverage of human rights issues or events, both within and outside Alberta and legislative matters or complaints involving human rights. Respondents' knowledge of Alberta's human rights legislation can influence how well they feel human rights are protected in Alberta.
- During 2008-09, the Alberta Human Rights and Citizenship Commission offered public education initiatives and resolved and adjudicated complaints of discrimination. Work was also done with the stakeholders and the network of municipalities and partners involved in the Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination to help build inclusive communities and strengthen workplaces.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

GOAL SEVEN

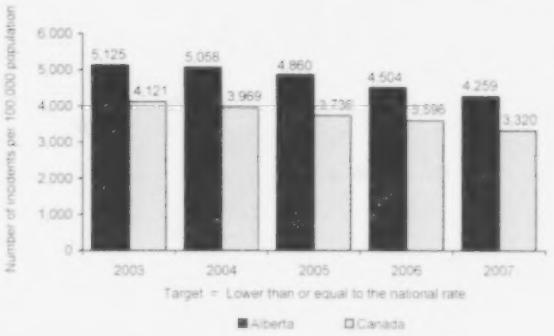
7 Alberta will be a safe place to live, work and raise families

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Property Crime Rate (unaudited)(50)

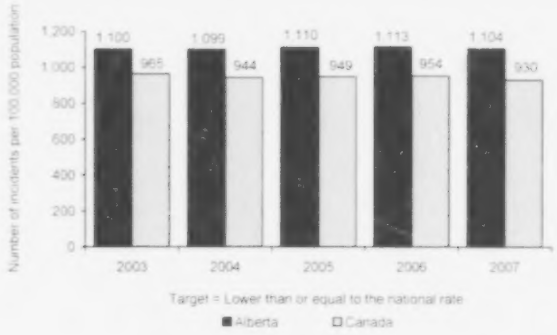
Alberta's property crime rate per 100,000 population, as reported by police.



- **Alberta's property crime rate was 4,259 per 100,000 population in 2007**, marking a five per cent decrease from the previous year and the lowest point in three decades. **Alberta's property crime rate was 28.3 per cent higher than the national rate.**
- The decline was driven by decreases in break and enter (-six per cent), theft under $5,000 (-six per cent) and motor vehicle theft (-eight per cent). The national property crime rate also dropped by eight per cent and reached its lowest point since 1969.
- Property crime is influenced by external factors such as the age of the population, employment rates and the state of the economy.

Violent Crime Rate (unaudited)(51)

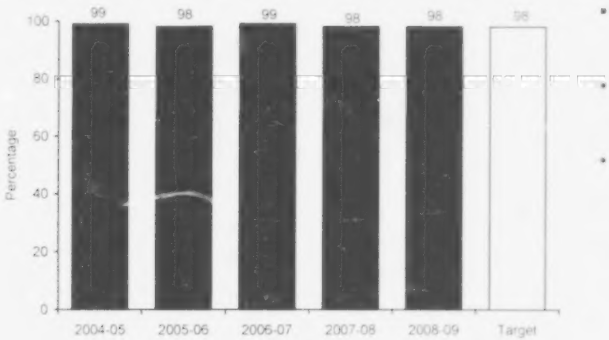
Alberta's violent crime rate per 100,000 population, as reported by police.



- **Alberta's violent crime rate was 1,104 per 100,000 population in 2007. Alberta's 2007 violent crime rate was 18.7 per cent higher than the national average.**
- Alberta's violent crime rate remained stable in 2007, a trend that is consistent over the past decade. There was a five per cent increase in the rate of robberies in 2007. Despite having 88 homicides in 2007, seven fewer than the previous year, Alberta continued to have the third highest homicide rate among the provinces. The national violent crime rate fell by three per cent, the lowest point since 1989, marking the lowest rate in nearly 20 years.
- External factors that contribute to the level of crime are demographic trends and economic conditions. Alberta has a younger and more mobile population and this segment of society tends to be over-represented as both offenders and victims of crime.

Work Stoppages (unaudited)(52)

Percentage of collective bargaining agreements settled without a work stoppage (strike or lockout).



- **In 2008-09, 98 per cent of Collective Bargaining Agreements were settled without a work stoppage, meeting the established target.**
- The target was reached despite an environment of rapidly changing economic conditions and high settlement expectations based on the previous year's settlements.
- The Alberta government ensured the positive result of this performance measure by providing expertise and third-party impartial support to labour and management in resolving collective bargaining disputes, promoting innovative practices, promoting alternative dispute resolution and developing revisions to the labour relations framework when necessary.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

GOAL EIGHT

8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

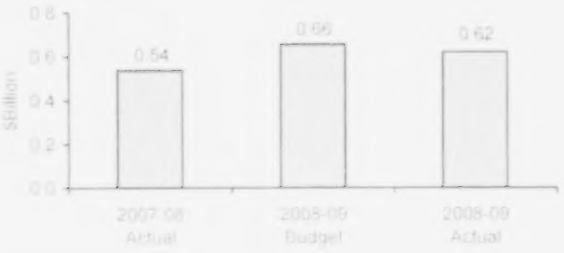
What the Goal Means

Participation in community and cultural activities and the enjoyment of the province's historical resources and parks and protected areas are essential to Albertans' high quality of life. Supporting the nonprofit and voluntary sector, libraries, sport and recreation, the arts and heritage all help to foster a culturally vibrant province, enhance the quality of life for all Albertans and attract the creative and skilled knowledge workers that Alberta needs to ensure its continued economic prosperity. The preservation of Alberta's natural heritage and historical resources is realized through a network of provincial parks and protected areas and world renowned museums and historic sites that provide opportunities for outdoor recreation, heritage appreciation and tourism.

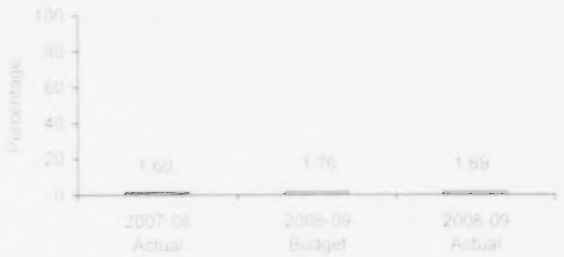
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $620.0 million toward the support of the province's natural, historical and cultural resources, which includes funding from the Alberta Lottery Fund.

Goal Eight Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending

GOAL EIGHT

8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

What the Goal Means

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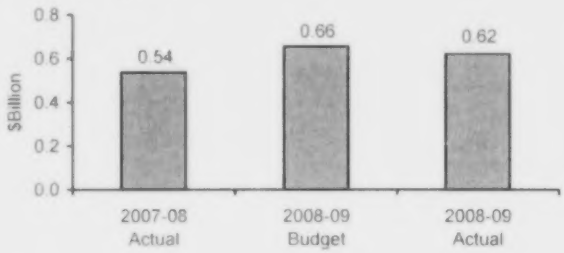
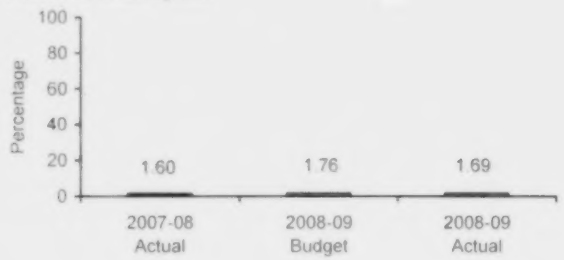
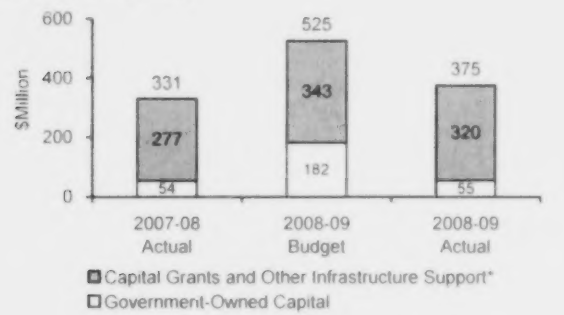


Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

GOAL EIGHT

8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Promote and support culture in Alberta by working with partners to implement *The Spirit of Alberta*: Alberta's cultural policy and establishing a Premier's Council on Arts and Culture. Priority will also be given to supporting Alberta's nonprofit and voluntary sector by implementing province-wide training opportunities and promoting Alberta's artists through the 2010 Cultural Olympiad. (Culture and Community Spirit)	**The government established the Premier's Council on Arts and Culture to implement and champion the goals of *The Spirit of Alberta*, ensuring all Albertans have access to cultural activities and that our cultural professionals and industries can thrive**. An implementation framework and strategies were developed and are supported the work of the Premier's Council on Arts and Culture and the Cultural Policy Cross-ministry Committee of assistant deputy ministers. Of additional note, the government focused efforts on the delivery of training to nonprofit sector representatives to help them to provide enhanced volunteer based initiatives in Alberta communities. Alberta was also an active participant in the national Cultural Olympiad Working Group to support our artists' participation in the Cultural Olympiad Program and the National Presentation and Touring Program.
Lead the implementation of the Community Spirit Donation Grant Program to provide proportional matching grants to eligible nonprofit and charitable organizations based on individual cash donations. Increased charitable giving will also be supported by promoting awareness and understanding of Alberta's enhanced charitable tax credit. (Culture and Community Spirit)	**The Community Spirit Donation Grant Program was launched with the goal of increasing charitable giving in support of Alberta's nonprofit and charitable organizations**. A wide range of nonprofit and charitable organizations benefit from this grant program, as the grants can be used to support an organization's operations, programs and capital projects. The Community Spirit Program consists of two components: the donation grant and the enhanced charitable tax credit. A number of education and awareness activities accompanied the launch of both program components.
Support public library services through funding assistance, policy and planning support, training and consultation services and the province-wide library network. This includes working with the library community to improve access to library information and online resources and build on the government's investment in the Alberta SuperNet. (Municipal Affairs)	**The government provided financial support, consultation and training to library boards and regional library boards to increase the capacity of the province's libraries**. An MLA library consultations committee created a new vision for the public library system focused on building seamless access to information and services through Alberta's public library network.
Enhance tourism and sport prior to, during and after the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games in British Columbia. This includes **promoting Alberta as a tourist destination** to visitors and upgrading facilities to international training and competition standards. Additional priorities include assisting to implement the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Accord and supporting the development of a Centre for Sport Excellence. (Tourism, Parks and Recreation)	**Alberta was promoted as a premier international winter sport destination by enhancing marketing efforts for high performance sports in targeted markets and through a Memorandum of Understanding with British Columbia to maximize economic benefits and long-term utilization of the two province's Olympic venues**. The government also reviewed all Olympic-based initiatives for their tourism potential and coordinated with industry partners to advance tourism efforts. Commitments were also made to renew the 1988 Winter Olympic legacy facilities, create a Canadian Centre for Sport Excellence and work on the Athletic and Ice Complex at Canada Olympic Park, which will have the capability to host national and international sporting events.

GOAL EIGHT

8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Ensure Alberta's parks and recreation areas remain protected yet accessible to Alberta's growing population by developing a plan for Alberta's parks and recreation areas. This will include a focus on science-based stewardship and conservation of our natural and cultural heritage while providing nature-based outdoor recreation opportunities for all Albertans. Other priorities include implementing the Alberta Recreation Corridor and Trails Designation Program. (Tourism, Parks and Recreation)	**In collaboration with a diverse range of stakeholders, Alberta developed the *Plan for Parks* to ensure that parks and recreation areas remain protected and accessible to Alberta's growing population**. The plan, which will guide the management of Alberta's parks program over the next ten years, balances conservation and recreation objectives and the diverse needs of Albertans. The government also consulted with universities, colleges and non-government organizations on the development of a research strategy to enhance scientific knowledge in support of conservation efforts and improve the capacity to make sound and scientifically accurate decisions relating to parks management. A $50 million grant was provided to the River Valley Alliance to support further development of the Capital Region River Valley Park concept in the North Saskatchewan River Valley from Devon to the mouth of the Sturgeon River.

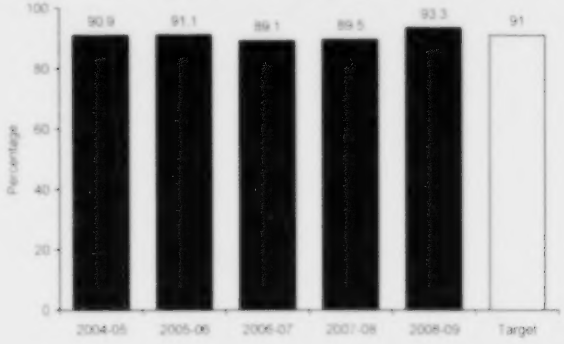
GOAL EIGHT

8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

Performance Measures

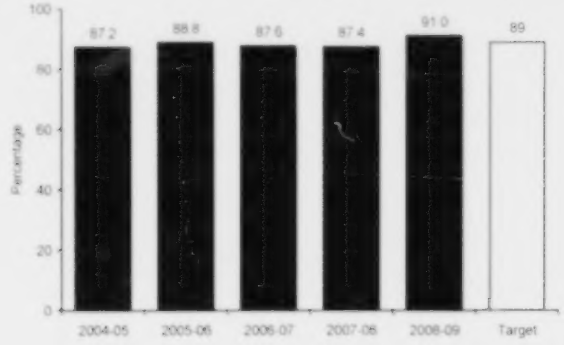
Results Analysis (unaudited)

Visitor Satisfaction with Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas (audited)(53)
Visitor satisfaction with experiences at provincial parks and recreation areas.



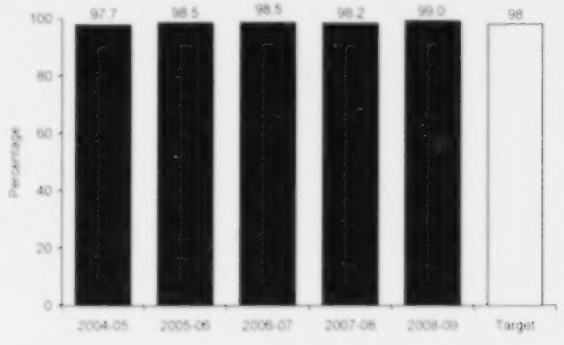
- **In 2008-09, 93.3 per cent of visitors were very satisfied or satisfied with the services and facilities at Alberta's provincial parks and recreation areas. This result exceeded the 2008-09 target by 2.3 percentage points.**
- Visitors' satisfaction is influenced by several factors, including interactions with other visitors, programs offered during a visit, awareness of facilities and services, infrastructure renewal programs, services provided by contractors and park staff and the age, condition and cleanliness of facilities.
- Alberta's provincial parks and recreation areas continue to attract over eight million visits a year. To meet this demand the government provided $49 million to improve infrastructure including upgrades, capital maintenance and renewal projects in provincial parks and recreation areas.

Participation in Arts Activities or Events (audited)(54)
Participation in arts activities or events by adult Albertans.



- **The percentage of adult Albertans who attended or participated in arts activities or events exceeded the target of 89 per cent and is at its highest level (91.0 per cent) since the performance measure was first introduced.**
- Albertans' decisions to attend and participate in the arts are influenced by many factors – including the wide array of entertainment options available, personal and employment commitments and the ability of arts events to attract audiences.
- The Government of Alberta contributed to the success of the measure through increased activity, investment and promotion of arts and culture. Alberta Foundation for the Arts funding levels were at their highest historical level with an additional injection of $9 million last year. Other highlights of the year included the inaugural Arts Day and the profiling of Alberta artists at the pre-game celebrations for the 2010 Olympics Winter Games.

Visitor Satisfaction with Provincial Historic Sites, Museums and Interpretive Centres (audited)(55)
Visitor satisfaction with experiences at provincial historic sites, museums and interpretive centres.



- **2008-09 results exceeded the target of 98 per cent and the previous years' results. Ninety-nine per cent of visitors were satisfied overall with their visit to a provincial historic site, museum or interpretive centre in 2008-09.** The overall satisfaction result consists of all those who report they were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience. Although results are already extremely high, the proportion of visitors who were very satisfied increased significantly over the previous year from 67 per cent in 2007-08 to 70 per cent in 2008-09.
- The focus and condition of exhibits and facilities, new exhibits and visitors' expectations and previous experiences all influence results.
- At historical sites around the province, significant progress was made in addressing the backlog of deferred maintenance issues that existed.

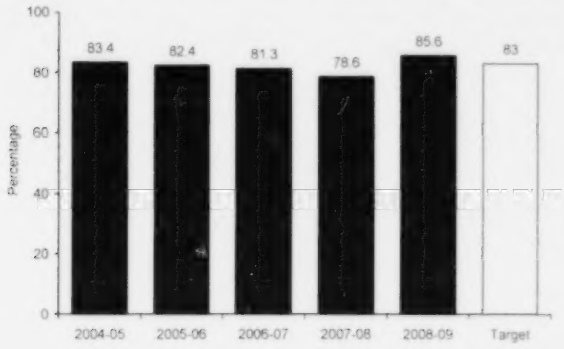
The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

GOAL EIGHT

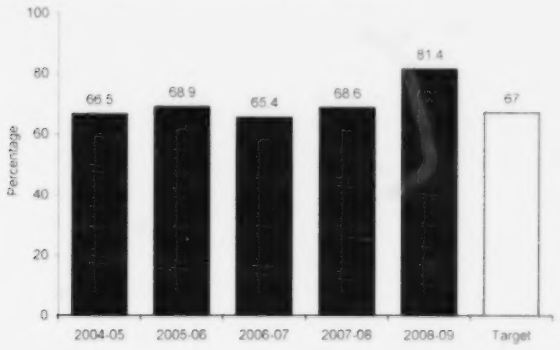
8 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

Performance Measures

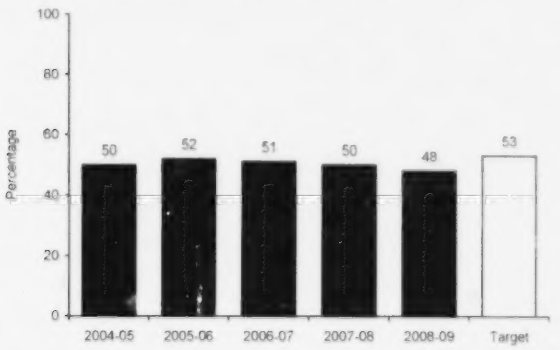
Participation in Sport and Recreation (unaudited)(56)
Participation in sport and recreational activities by adult Albertans.



Level of Community Volunteerism (unaudited)(57)
Level of community volunteerism by adult Albertans.



Public Library Use (unaudited)(58)
Usage of public library services by adult Albertans.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **The percentage of adult Albertans who participated in sport and recreational activities increased to 85.6 per cent in 2008-09, seven percentage points higher than last year and 2.6 percentage points above the 2008-09 target.**
- Results may be affected by many external influences such as lifestyle choices, the disposable income Albertans have to spend on sport and recreational activities, demographic changes and the media reporting on the importance of living an active, healthy lifestyle.
- A continued emphasis on encouraging Albertans to live an active, healthy lifestyle is needed to maintain or increase the 85.6 per cent result. Ongoing research on the positive results that active living has on the overall health and wellness of Albertans may increase participation in sport and recreation over the next few years.

- **The percentage of adult Albertans who volunteered increased from 68.6 per cent in 2007-08 to 81.4 per cent in 2008-09, surpassing the target of 67 per cent.**
- The predominant reason for the increase is the addition of the example of "helping a neighbour in need" to the survey question on informal volunteering. Positive responses to this question increased by approximately 30 per cent over last year. However, increases were also seen in volunteering for arts and culture (5.9 per cent), sports (1.1 per cent), recreation (1.7 per cent) and libraries (2.3 per cent). The largest barriers reported by people not volunteering is not having enough time or being too busy (51.6 per cent).
- The government provided 129 Alberta communities with funding to promote the importance of volunteers during National Volunteer Week. Furthermore, more Albertans may have volunteered in order to enhance their job related skills and increase their experience in order to strengthen their opportunities in a changing job market.

- **Adult Albertans who visited a public library in person decreased slightly from 50 per cent in 2007-08 to 48 per cent in 2008-09 and was below the target of 53 per cent.**
- Public library use by adult Albertans is influenced by several factors including library hours of operation, time constraints and the increasing use of widely accessible electronic sources of information, such as the Internet.
- Adult Albertans who reported that someone in their household used a public library increased from 62 per cent in 2007-08 to 63 per cent in 2008-09. This may indicate an increase in use of public libraries by children and youth.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca.

GOAL NINE

9 Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities

What the Goal Means

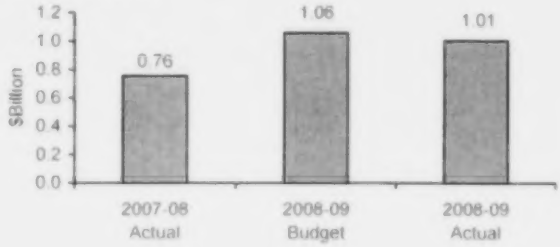
Community and regional development, including community renewal projects, beautification and land rehabilitation are key to growth, sustainability and quality of life for Albertans. The development of a financially sustainable, efficient and responsive local government sector that can provide the services and infrastructure Albertans and businesses need is encouraged through partnerships, cooperation and an appropriate legislative framework and the implementation of a provincial Land-use Framework.

Through *Strengthening Relationships: The Government of Alberta's Aboriginal Policy Framework*, the province is committed to increasing the participation of First Nation, Métis and other Aboriginal people in the social and economic life of Alberta. Increased participation will result in improved quality of life and contribute to the province's long-term vision of Alberta as a place where Aboriginal Albertans have achieved a socioeconomic status equivalent to that of other Albertans.

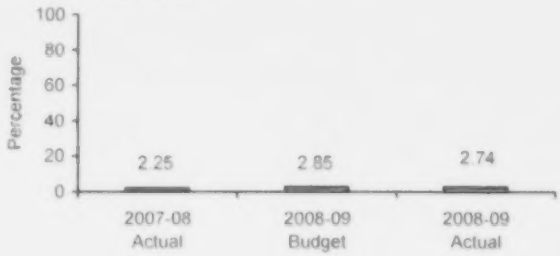
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the provincial government directed $1,005.0 million toward Aboriginal issues not addressed under other government goals.

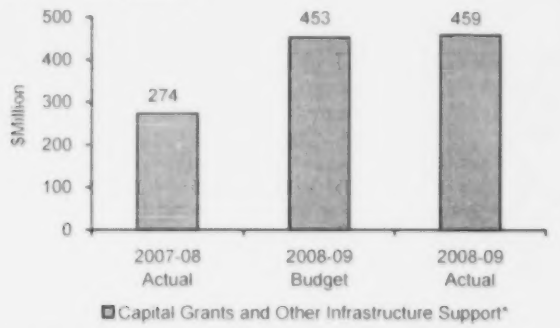
Goal Nine Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

GOAL NINE

9 Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Create a strategic plan for developing the oil sands region. **Manage and coordinate the infrastructure and services to support the development in the oil sands areas**. Government will work with industry, communities and other stakeholders to ensure that Alberta's energy resources are developed in an environmentally sustainable way. (Treasury Board)	**The government completed its strategic plan *Responsible Actions: A Plan for Alberta's Oil Sands*. This is a comprehensive 20-year strategic plan for Alberta's oil sands that aims to reduce the environmental footprint, optimize economic growth, provide the necessary infrastructure and housing and increase the quality of life in Alberta's oil sands regions.** Implementation has already begun on several strategies in Responsible Actions.
Conclude the new long-term governance and funding arrangement with and for the Métis Settlements that is focused on effective governance, enhanced accountability and sustainability. (Aboriginal Relations)	**The Government of Alberta and the Métis Settlements General Council are working to develop a long-term governance and funding arrangement**. The three broad objectives or pillars of the agreement will be effective governance, enhanced accountability and sustainability. At present, a three-year interim agreement focusing on the three pillars is in place to assess progress. Both the long-term agreement and the interim agreement present an opportunity to focus on the objectives of the 1989 Alberta-Métis Settlements Accord: local autonomy and economic self-sufficiency.
Formalize relationships between the Government of Alberta and the Alberta Treaty Grand Chiefs (Treaty 6, 7 and 8) through a Memorandum of Understanding. (Aboriginal Relations)	**On May 22, 2008, the government and the Grand Chiefs and Vice Chiefs of Treaties 6, 7 and 8 signed a historic agreement establishing a framework for future relations**. The Protocol Agreement on Government to Government Relations outlines processes to maintain effective relationships and recognizes the importance to First Nation leaders of establishing relations directly with elected provincial representatives.
Continue to implement the Aboriginal consultation strategy. This will require implementation of Alberta's consultation policy and guidelines, continued support for traditional use studies and the development of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Alberta Treaty Grand Chiefs. (Aboriginal Relations)	**The government worked with First Nations and industry on matters related to consultations with First Nations, including the establishment of a trilateral initiative**. The government provided support to First Nations to enhance their capacity to be effectively consulted through the First Nations Consultation Capacity Investment Program and to identify areas of cultural, historical and spiritual importance through the Traditional Use Studies Program.
Coordinate discussions and initiatives with First Nation, provincial Métis organizations, industry, Alberta ministries and, where appropriate, the federal government to **improve overall outcomes for Aboriginal people**, including their participation in the economy and economic development in Aboriginal communities. (Aboriginal Relations)	Sustainable and strategic economic partnerships among First Nations, industry and governments were encouraged in a variety of ways. **Through its First Nations Economic Partnerships Initiative, government supported 14 projects to develop economic capacity or establish economic development partnerships involving 18 First Nations**. Preparations were made for a symposium that will provide a forum for Aboriginal communities to network, share successes and build partnerships with leaders from industry, government and other Aboriginal communities across Canada and around the world. Alberta also received $4.3 million funding over three years from the Federal Community Development Trust to assist seven northern Aboriginal communities and four Métis settlements in offsetting the downturn in Alberta's forestry industry by assisting them with community long-term sustainability planning.

GOAL NINE

9 Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities

Progress Report on Strategies

2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Support the establishment of the Capital Region Board and its development of a Capital Region Integrated Growth Management Plan which will guide the long-term growth of the Capital Region; **collaborate with municipalities, municipal associations and other stakeholders to develop guidelines and initiatives as required, to promote cooperation and help resolve growth-related conflicts and regional** planning issues between neighboring municipalities; and undertake a legislative review of the *Municipal Government Act* to address issues related to land-use planning and property assessment. (Municipal Affairs)	**The government provided support for the Capital Region Board and its development of a Capital Region Growth Plan to guide future growth. Support was also provided to the Calgary Regional Partnership and other initiatives that promote regional collaboration**. The Inter-municipal Dispute Resolution Program which promotes cooperation continues to effectively resolve growth-related conflicts between municipalities and continuing support for regional collaboration will lead to the development of stronger regions and sustainable communities.
Work to implement commitments regarding the accepted recommendations of the Minister's Council on Municipal Sustainability. (Municipal Affairs)	**The government has continued to work towards implementing the accepted recommendations of the Minister's Council on Municipal Sustainability as a means of encouraging inter-municipal cooperation and enhancing long-term municipal sustainability**. As a key outcome of the Minister's Council, funding provided through the ten-year Municipal Sustainability Initiative enhances the long-term sustainability of municipalities by providing the flexibility to address local priorities.
Monitor the impact of high growth on municipalities and assist affected municipalities to address capacity issues and improve the coordination of the responses to growth-related challenges. This includes continuing to work with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and the Municipal District of Opportunity to address oil sands related growth pressures in their region. Implement the provincial government's commitment to provide major long-term funding to municipalities through the Municipal Sustainability Initiative to enhance their sustainability and enable them to meet the demands of growth. An accountability framework will be developed to ensure that provincial funds provided to municipalities are used to meet agreed upon objectives. Work with municipalities to expand the pool of Albertans who are interested in pursuing careers in local government and provide training and resources to help build the capacity of existing municipal staff. (Municipal Affairs)	**Funding provided through the Municipal Sustainability Initiative and other grant programs assisted municipalities in responding to growth-related challenges**. Significant support was given to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to increase local planning capacity and manage growth effectively. Support for building capacity was provided to municipalities through a number of initiatives, including the Grade six social studies curriculum launch of Building Communities Through Local Government and the promotion of careers within local governments. Additionally, 15 interns graduated from the Municipal Internship Program in 2008 with the experience necessary to pursue productive careers in local government.

GOAL NINE

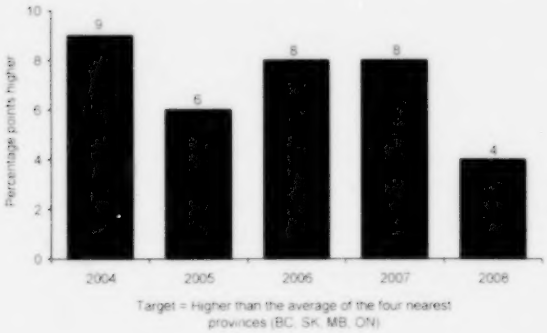
9 Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities

Performance Measures

Results Analysis (unaudited)

Aboriginal Affairs (audited)(59)

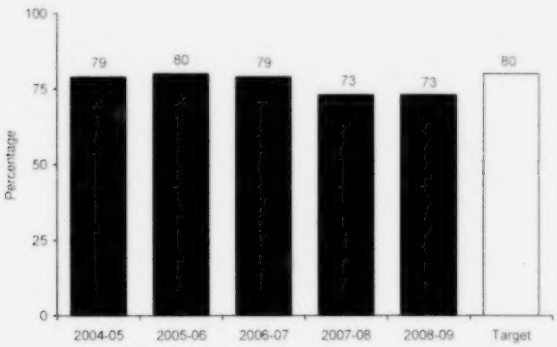
Public approval rating on Aboriginal issues compared to the average of the four nearest provinces.



- **In 2008, the Alberta government had a four percentage point higher approval rating on Aboriginal issues compared to the average rating of the four nearest provinces. This result was four percentage points below the previous year, but met the performance target for 2008.**
- The four closest provinces to Alberta saw increases in public approval ranging from three percentage points to six percentage points, while Alberta's approval rating decreased by two percentage points. However, the rating for Alberta has remained relatively constant over the last few years: 49 per cent in 2006, 50 per cent in 2007 and 48 per cent in 2008.

Albertans' Satisfaction with their Local Governments (audited)(60)

Percentage satisfied.



- **The result remained unchanged from 2007-08, when there was a six percentage points decrease in Albertans' level of satisfaction with their municipal governments. The results are below the target of 80 per cent.**
- Many municipalities have been facing challenges in addressing growth and capacity related issues in their communities such as development and the provision of services, while others have been facing the challenges of a declining population and economic base. These issues may be factors in the decrease in Albertans' level of satisfaction with their municipal governments.
- The results indicate that satisfaction among Albertans with their municipal governments may be stabilizing due in part to the government's recent efforts at supporting local government capacity.

The number beside the title of each measure refers to the sources and notes on page 82 of this document. For more detailed information, see the measures methodology at www.alberta.ca

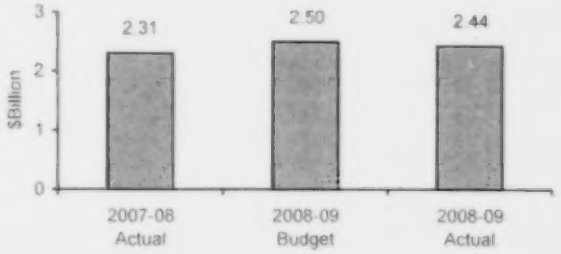
What the Goal Means

Alberta's growth depends on many factors including the maintenance and development of infrastructure to move people and get goods to market. Increased competitiveness in domestic and international markets is more attainable with adequate infrastructure, communications and utilities in place that are managed in an effective and efficient manner.

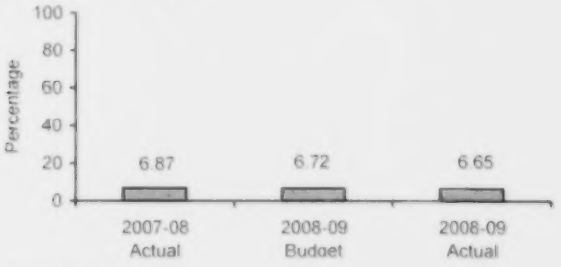
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $2,436.0 million to support Alberta's transportation infrastructure.

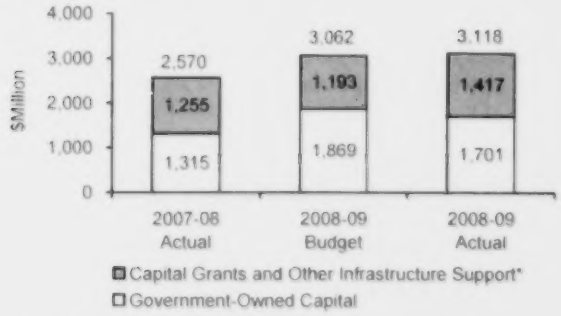
Goal Ten Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support are included in the Goal Expense.

Alberta will have effective and efficient transportation infrastructure

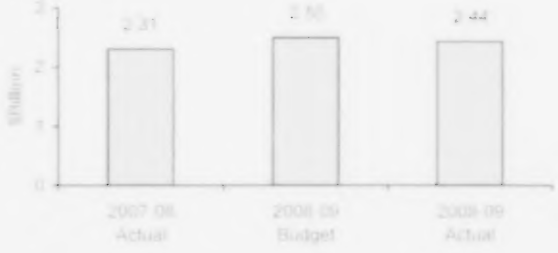
What the Goal Means

Alberta's growth depends on many factors including the maintenance and development of infrastructure to move people and get goods to market. Increased competitiveness in domestic and international markets is more attainable with adequate infrastructure, communications and utilities in place that are managed in an effective and efficient manner.

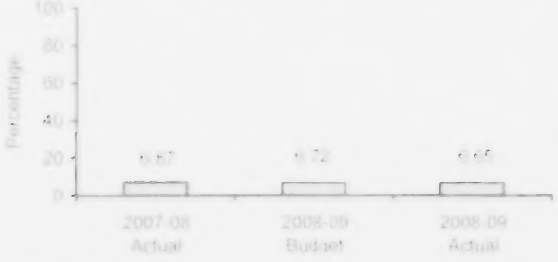
Expenses and Capital Plan Spending

In 2008-09, the Alberta government directed $2,436.0 million to support Alberta's transportation infrastructure.

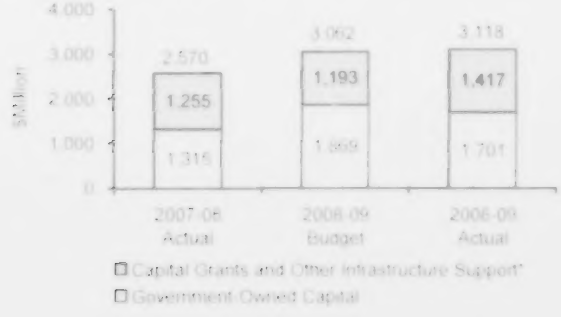
Goal Ten Expense



Percent of Total Expense



Capital Plan Spending



* Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support includes Goal 10 Expense.

Progress Report on Strategies

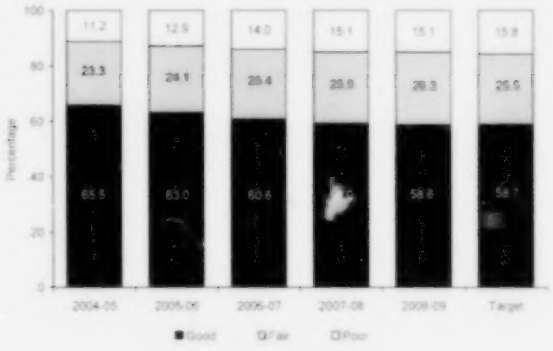
2008-11 Strategies	Progress Report
Double the investment in highway repaving and bridge repair to **improve the condition and capacity of our provincial highway network to support Alberta's social and economic growth**. The maintenance and preservation of our provincial highways, bridges and overpasses is critical to providing and supporting a world-class transportation system for Alberta. (Transportation)	**Government repaved 1,342 kilometres of highways and preserved 78 bridges in 2008-09 to support strategic economic corridors and maintain the vital links between our communities** as a part of its strategy for the preservation and rehabilitation of provincial highways, bridges and overpasses. Highlights included the repaving of Highway 986 between Red Earth and Lubicon Lake, Highway 2 between Leduc and Edmonton, Highway 2 between Crossfield and Acme and Highway 9 between Beiseker and Drumheller. Major bridge projects included: the Athabasca River Bridge in Fort McMurray (Highway 63), the Smokey River Bridge near Watino (Highway 49), the Yankee Valley Road in Airdrie (Highway 2) and the new Milk River Bypass on Highway 4.
Develop and implement policy to **ensure sufficient and reliable electric transmission facilities are available in a timely manner** to support continued economic growth in the province. (Energy)	During the year **a number of electric transmission concerns were addressed and a report was prepared that seeks to resolve underlying issues going forward**. Plans were developed to implement the vision for enhanced electricity set out in the *Provincial Energy Strategy*.
Government will **expand the provincial highway system and transportation links to efficiently connect Alberta's communities and move people, goods and services to their provincial, national and international destinations**. Increased competitiveness in domestic and international markets is more attainable by twinning of the North-South Trade Corridor and developing the Asia-Pacific Gateway and urban corridors, such as the Edmonton and Calgary ring roads. Construction of road network improvements is underway or planned for high growth areas, including those areas directly impacted by resource development. Efforts will continue with municipalities and stakeholders to ensure that required infrastructure supports economic development throughout the province. (Transportation)	**Government continued to develop Alberta's transportation system and strategic economic corridors to connect communities and support economic growth.** Over 90 per cent of the twinning on the North-South Trade Corridor between Coutts at the Alberta-Montana border and the British Columbia border west of Grande Prairie was completed to enable the safe transport of people and goods to national and international destinations. Government also opened an additional 16 kilometres of four-lane highway south of Fort McMurray to further improve Highway 63 and the North-South Trade Corridor. The new roundabout on Highway 744 in Peace River was also opened to traffic and will greatly reduce congestion and improve safety for motorists. **The province continued to develop ring roads in Edmonton and Calgary to ensure efficient and effective transportation systems for the two cities**. Government accelerated completion of the Stony Plain Road/Anthony Henday interchange by combining the design and construction phases into one contract. This will enable the interchange to open one year earlier than scheduled. The public private partnerships for Calgary Northeast and Edmonton Northwest Ring Road projects also made great progress towards their scheduled completion. Government also continued to provide support to municipalities to address local transportation infrastructure priorities through federal and provincial grant programs.
With a network of two international, 12 regional and 72 community airports across Alberta, **ensure that airports are being operated as effectively and efficiently as possible**. Exploring options will ensure Albertans are getting an optimal return on the province's investment when it comes to small airports. (Transportation)	Under the Community Airports Program, **government provided support for municipalities to maintain and increase the viability of small airports across the province**. Government will continue to explore options to ensure that Albertans are well served by community airports and receive an optimal return on their investment.

10 Alberta will have effective and efficient transportation infrastructure

Performance Measures

Physical Condition of Provincial Highways (audited)[61]

Physical condition of pavement as good, fair or poor.



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **The results for 2008-09 indicated that the percentages of paved highways in good, fair and poor condition are 58.6 per cent, 26.3 per cent and 15.1 per cent respectively. Performance is better than the established target** but continues to show gradual attrition as a result of aging infrastructure.
- A significant amount of the paved provincial highway network is approaching an age where rehabilitation may be necessary. The province is addressing this challenge by continuing to invest in highway repaving and optimizing the value of that investment for Albertans.
- The province continues to provide innovative solutions to expand, manage and maintain the existing highway network and accommodate increasing traffic volumes safely. The provincial highway network consists of approximately 31,000 kilometres of roadways, of which about 27,000 kilometres are paved.

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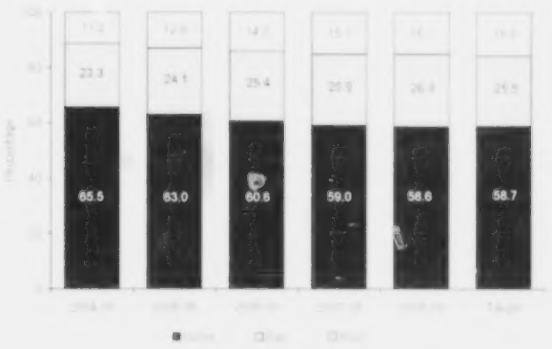
Alberta will have effective and efficient transportation infrastructure

Performance Measures

Physical Condition of Provincial Highways (unaudited)

Physical condition of pavement as good, fair or poor



Results Analysis (unaudited)

- **The results for 2008-09 indicated that the percentages of paved highways in good, fair and poor condition are 58.6 per cent, 26.3 per cent and 15.1 per cent respectively. Performance is better than the established target** but continues to show gradual erosion as a result of aging infrastructure.
- A significant amount of the paved provincial highway network is approaching an age where rehabilitation may be necessary. The province is addressing this challenge by continuing to invest in highway repaving and optimizing the value of that investment for Albertans.
- The province continues to provide innovative solutions to expand, manage and maintain the existing highway network and accommodate increasing traffic volumes safely. The provincial highway network consists of approximately 31,000 kilometres of roadways, of which about 27,000 kilometres are paved.

Expense by Goal (Core Business)

(millions of dollars)

	Goal (Core Business)	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 Actual
1	Alberta will have a diversified and prosperous economy (Agriculture, Resource Management and Economic Development)	1,912	2,145	2,394
2	Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning and work (Education)	8,886	9,315	9,410
3	The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained (Environment)	346	483	414
4	Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally (General Government, and Debt Servicing)	1,611	2,137	1,765
5	Albertans will be healthy (Health)	12,286	13,460	13,107
6	Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for (Human Support Services, and Housing)	3,655	4,037	4,094
7	Alberta will be a safe place to live, work, and raise families (Protection of Persons and Property)	1,293	1,382	1,412
8	Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources (Recreation and Culture)	538	655	620
9	Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities (Regional Planning and Development)	755	1,061	1,005
10	Alberta will have effective and efficient transportation infrastructure (Transportation, Communications and Utilities)	2,306	2,500	2,436
Total Program and Debt Servicing Expense		33,588	37,175	36,657

Expense by Goal by Ministry, 2008-09 Actual

(millions of dollars)

	Goals										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
Legislative Assembly	-	-	-	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	87
Aboriginal Affairs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141	-	141
Advanced Education and Technology	223	3,208	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,431
Agriculture and Rural Development	1,317	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,317
Children and Youth Services	-	-	-	-	-	1,093	-	-	-	-	1,093
Culture and Community Spirit	97	-	-	-	-	-	8	419	-	-	524
Education	-	5,897	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,897
Employment and Immigration	66	271	-	2	39	537	50	5	5	-	975
Energy	305	-	11	48	-	-	-	-	-	29	393
Environment	-	-	332	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	332
Executive Council	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Finance and Enterprise	50	1	-	632	84	-	31	-	256	-	1,054
Health and Wellness	-	-	-	-	12,881	-	-	-	-	-	12,881
Housing and Urban Affairs	-	-	-	3	-	612	3	-	8	-	626
Infrastructure	-	33	32	480	1	1	-	-	-	227	774
International and Intergovernmental Relations	19	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Justice	-	-	-	-	-	83	359	-	-	-	442
Municipal Affairs	-	-	-	37	-	-	53	22	593	-	705
Seniors and Community Supports	-	-	-	-	102	1,742	-	-	-	-	1,844
Service Alberta	3	-	-	190	-	-	91	-	-	-	284
Solicitor General and Public Security	-	-	-	-	-	29	552	1	-	-	579
Sustainable Resource Development	225	-	37	-	-	-	223	-	-	-	485
Tourism, Parks and Recreation	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	173	-	-	240
Transportation	22	-	1	1	-	-	42	-	-	2,180	2,246
Treasury Board	-	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	2	-	42
Total Program Expense	**2,394**	**9,410**	**413**	**1,558**	**13,107**	**4,094**	**1,412**	**620**	**1,005**	**2,436**	**36,449**
Debt Servicing Costs	-	-	-	**208**	-	-	-	-	-	-	**208**
Total Program and Debt Servicing Expense	**2,394**	**9,410**	**413**	**1,766**	**13,107**	**4,094**	**1,412**	**620**	**1,005**	**2,436**	**36,657**
Pension Provisions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,041	2,041
Total Expense	**2,394**	**9,410**	**413**	**1,766**	**13,107**	**4,094**	**1,412**	**620**	**1,005**	**2,436**	**38,698**

Capital Plan by Goal (Core Business)*

(millions of dollars)

	Goal (Core Business)	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 Actual
1	Alberta will have a diversified and prosperous economy (Agriculture, Resource Management and Economic Development)	112	64	66
2	Albertans will be well prepared for lifelong learning and work (Education)	1,526	1,463	1,555
3	The high quality of Alberta's environment will be sustained (Environment)	158	394	150
4	Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government and maintain its strong position nationally and internationally (General Government, and Debt Servicing)	320	769	387
5	Albertans will be healthy (Health)	1,290	1,373	948
6	Albertans will be independent and our children will be well cared for (Human Support Services, and Housing)	348	428	449
7	Alberta will be a safe place to live, work, and raise families (Protection of Persons and Property)	42	190	87
8	Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources (Recreation and Culture)	331	525	375
9	Alberta will have strong and effective municipalities and self-reliant Aboriginal communities (Regional Planning and Development)	274	453	459
10	Alberta will have effective and efficient transportation infrastructure (Transportation, Communications and Utilities)	2,570	3,062	3,118
	Total Capital Plan	6,971	8,721	7,594

* Capital plan spending includes support for both Capital Grants and Other Infrastructure Support, which is included in the amounts presented in the Tables on the facing page and Government-Owned Capital.

Core Businesses Key

The following is a brief description of the general areas of the government's work for each of its core businesses.

Agriculture, Resource Management and Economic Development – includes programs and services related to agriculture, fish and game, oil and gas, forestry, economic development for industry and trade, tourism and other economic sectors, labour force development and immigration and research establishments. Also includes provincial grants for related capital infrastructure.

Debt Servicing Costs – includes interest and other charges pertaining to servicing of the public debt, including debt-servicing costs for accumulated debt obligations, which are matched to investments locked into the Debt Retirement Account.

Education – includes early childhood services to secondary education (e.g., school boards, schools, teachers, curricula, textbooks and classroom resources), post-secondary education (e.g., universities, colleges, apprenticeships, industry training and support to adult learners) and retraining (skills upgrading). Also includes provincial grants to local authorities for related capital infrastructure.

Environment – includes programs and services related to sustainable environmental management, ensuring safe and adequate supplies of water, actions taken on climate change and protection of the land.

General Government – includes the Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor, government and legislative staff and officials, international and intergovernmental relations and general administration (including budgeting and accounting, tax and revenue collection and communications).

Health – includes health services for all Albertans, including hospital services, medical care, drug programs, preventive care, x-rays, alcohol and drug rehabilitation and health services for persons with disabilities. Also includes provincial grants to local authorities for related capital infrastructure.

Housing – includes housing of seniors, low-income families and those with special needs. Also includes provincial grants for related capital infrastructure.

Human Support Services – includes services for people in need including child protection services, income support for adults and seniors, services for victims of crime, provision of legal aid, supports for people with disabilities and support for those unable to work due to illness or disability.

Protection of Persons and Property – includes programs and services related to public security, policing, the judicial system, human rights, maintenance enforcement, firefighting, related regulation, labour relations, safe work environments and correctional and rehabilitation services.

Recreation and Culture – includes programs and services related to recreation, sport, culture, historical artefacts and sites, museums, libraries and provincial parks and protected areas. Also includes provincial grants for related capital infrastructure.

Regional Planning and Development – includes community and regional development affairs and services including planning and zoning, Aboriginal communities and land claim negotiations and settlements.

Transportation, Communications and Utilities – includes programs and services related to provincial transportation including air, road and rail transport, telecommunications, pipelines and gas and electricity utilities. Also includes provincial grants to local authorities for related capital infrastructure.

SOURCES AND NOTES

(1) **Personal Disposable Income**
Source: Statistics Canada and Finance and Enterprise
Note: Historical results revised by Statistics Canada.

(2) **Labour Productivity**
Source: Statistics Canada and Employment and Immigration
Note: Historical results revised by Statistics Canada.

(3) **Labour Force Participation Rate**
Source: Statistics Canada

(4) **Gross Domestic Product**
Source: Statistics Canada and Finance and Enterprise
Note: Historical results revised by Statistics Canada.

(5) **Manufacturing and Service Industry Investment**
Source: Statistics Canada and Finance and Enterprise
Note: 2006 and 2007 results revised by Statistics Canada.

(6) **Upstream Oil and Gas Industry Investment**
Source: Statistics Canada, Private and Public Investment in Canada (PPI) publications
Note: Historical results have been revised due to the adoption of a new data source PPI.

(7) **Manufacturing and Service Exports**
Source: Statistics Canada and Finance and Enterprise
Note: The 2005-07 results were revised by Statistics Canada and Finance and Enterprise. Percentage change from the previous year is calculated from unrounded data.

(8) **Tourism Expenditures**
Source: Statistics Canada, Travel Survey of Residents of Canada and the International Travel Survey and Tourism, Parks and Recreation
Notes: Due to revisions to the Statistics Canada Travel Survey of Residents of Canada in 2006, later results are not comparable with previous years' results.
Results for 2004 and 2005 have not been included due to a change in methodology that makes them incomparable to subsequent years.
Results for 2006 and 2007 have been revised based on the release of the final data from the Statistics Canada Travel surveys.
Results for 2008 are estimates.

(9) **Sponsored Research at Alberta Universities**
Source: Advanced Education and Technology
Note: The time required to compile data for this measure results in a one year lag in the reporting cycle.

(10) **Business Expenditures on Research and Development**
Source: Statistics Canada
Notes: Historical results have been revised by Statistics Canada to reflect new information available on business expenditures on research and development in Alberta.
The time required to compile data for this measure results in a lag in the reporting cycle.

(11) **Educational Attainment of Albertans**
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

(12) **Educational Attainment of Aboriginal Albertans**
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

(13) **Lifelong Learning**
Source: Advanced Education and Technology and Education

(14) **Literacy and Numeracy**
Source: Education

Sources and Notes

(15) **High School Completion Rate**
Source: Education

(16) **High School to Post-secondary Transition**
Source: Education

(17) **Employment Rate of Recent Alberta Advanced Education Graduates** (biennial survey)
Source: Advanced Education and Technology
Note: Data comes from two biennial surveys, new results for certificate or diploma graduates and university graduates will be available in 2010-11.

(18) **Skill Development** (biennial survey)
Source: Advanced Education and Technology and Education

(19) **Skills Development**
Source: Employment and Immigration and Advanced Education and Technology

(20) **Physical Condition of Learning Facilities**
Source: Infrastructure
Note: Good is defined as adequate for intended use and expected to provide continued service life with average maintenance. Fair means aging components are nearing the end of their life cycle and require additional expenditure for renewal or refurbishing. Poor means upgrading is required to comply with minimum codes or standards and deterioration has reached the point where major repairs or replacement are necessary.

(21) **River Water Quality Index**
Source: Environment

(22) **Municipal Solid Waste to Landfills**
Source: Environment

(23) **Air Quality Index**
Source: Environment, Wood Buffalo Environment Association, Peace Airshed Zone Association, Parkland Airshed Management Zone, Fort Air Partnership, Calgary Region Airshed Zone, Lakeland Industry and Community Association and Palliser Airshed Society

(24) **Drinking Water Safety Indicator**
Source: Environment
Note: January 1 to December 31 is now being used as the data collection period for the facility operational requirements and water quality sub-measures. This represents a change from the Government of Alberta's 2008 Business Plan.

(25) **Effective Water Management Infrastructure**
Source: Environment
Note: Good is defined as adequate for intended use and expected to provide continued service life with minimal to average maintenance. Fair means aging components are nearing the end of their life cycle and require additional expenditure for renewal or refurbishing. Poor means upgrading is required to comply with minimum codes or standards and deterioration has reached the point where major repairs or replacement are necessary.

(26) **Alberta's Credit Rating**
Source: Department of Finance Canada and Finance and Enterprise
Note: Historical data revised by the Department of Finance Canada.

(27) **Albertans' Satisfaction with Access to Services and Information**
Source: Ipsos Reid: Survey of Albertans

Sources and Notes

(28) **Physical Condition of Government-owned and Operated Facilities**
Source: Infrastructure
Note: Good is defined as adequate for intended use and expected to provide continued service life with average maintenance. Fair means aging components are nearing the end of their life cycle and require additional expenditure for renewal or refurbishing. Poor means upgrading is required to comply with minimum codes or standards and deterioration has reached the point where major repairs or replacement are necessary. To enhance reporting and enable comparison of condition ratings across facility types, the ministry adopted a Facility Condition Index which replaces the previously used six-point rating system. The 2008-09 target is based on the obsolete six-point rating and therefore is not comparable to the 2008-09 actual results.

(29) **Tax Load**
Source: Department of Finance Canada and Finance and Enterprise
Note: Historical data revised by the Department of Finance Canada.

(30) **Ease of Access to Services**
Source: 2007, 2008 and 2009: HQCA Satisfaction with Healthcare Survey – Health Quality Council of Alberta conducted by the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta; 2006: HQCA Satisfaction with Healthcare Survey – Health Quality Council of Alberta conducted by IPSOS; 2005: Public Survey about Health and the Health System in Alberta – Alberta Health and Wellness conducted by the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta.

(31) **Public Rating of Health System Overall**
Source: 200 , 2008 and 2009: HQCA Satisfaction with Healthcare Survey – Health Quality Council of Alberta conducted by the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta; 2006: HQCA Satisfaction with Healthcare Survey – Health Quality Council of Alberta conducted by IPSOS; 2005: Public Survey about Health and the Health System in Alberta – Alberta Health and Wellness conducted by the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta.

(32) **Life Expectancy at Birth**
Source: Health and Wellness, Vital Statistics Registry, Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan Stakeholder Registry – Alberta data

(33) **Self-reported Health Status**
Source: 2007, 2008 and 2009: HQCA Satisfaction with Healthcare Survey – Health Quality Council of Alberta conducted by the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta; 2006: HQCA Satisfaction with Healthcare Survey – Health Quality Council of Alberta conducted by IPSOS; 2005: Public Survey about Health and the Health System in Alberta – Alberta Health and Wellness conducted by the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta.

(34) **Participation in Healthy Behaviour**
Source: Statistics Canada – Canadian Community Health Survey
Note: 2008 results are not yet available; therefore, latest available data is 2007 compared to 2008-09 targets. These percentages replace previously published percentages for all years to be consistent with reports published by Statistics Canada.

(35) **Health Facilities – Physical Condition**
Source: Infrastructure, Alberta Health Services
Notes: Good is defined as adequate for intended use and expected to provide continued service life with average maintenance. Fair means aging components are nearing the end of their life cycle and require additional expenditure for renewal or refurbishing. Poor means upgrading is required to comply with minimum codes or standards and deterioration has reached the point where major repairs or replacement are necessary. For facilities, current minimum codes and standards are defined by the Alberta Building Code which is revised periodically. Older buildings are 'grandfathered' and required to comply with the standards applicable at the time they were constructed and not the current standards.

(36) **Social and Emotional Development**
Source: Statistics Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada – National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth

(37) **Support for Albertans with Severe Disabilities**
Source: Seniors and Community Supports, Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Client Survey 2008-09

Sources and Notes

(38) **Affordable Housing Units**
Source: Housing and Urban Affairs
Note: Total affordable housing units includes funding committed during the fiscal year and in any phase of development.

(39) **Well-being of Children**
Source: Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)
Note: Results revised by HRSDC in 2008.

(40) **Support for Albertans with Low Incomes**
Source: Employment and Immigration

(41) **Economic Status of Alberta**
Source: Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)
Note: Results revised by HRSDC in 2008.

(42) **Parenting Skills**
Source: Statistics Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada – National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth
Note: Results for Alberta and Canada in all five years have been restated from what has been reported in previous years.

(43) **Support for Albertans with Developmental Disabilities** (biennial survey)
Source: Seniors and Community Supports, Persons with Developmental Disabilities Family and Guardian Satisfaction Survey 2008-09

(44) **Support for Families with Low Income with Children** (biennial survey)
Source: Employment and Immigration

(45) **Support for Albertans with Low Income who Need Temporary Help**
Source: Employment and Immigration

(46) **Seniors' Average Total Income**
Source: Statistics Canada, Small Area and Administrative Data Division, Seniors Data, Table 5, Sources of Income of Senior Individuals by Age Group

(47) **Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood**
Source: Solicitor General and Public Security and Justice and Attorney General 2009 Surveys of Albertans

(48) **Workplace Lost-time Claim Rate**
Source: Employment and Immigration and Workers' Compensation Board – Alberta

(49) **Effectiveness of Human Rights Protection**
Source: Banister Research and Consulting Inc., 2009 Culture and Community Spirit Survey of Albertans

(50) **Property Crime Rate**
Source: Canadian Crime Statistics, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics
Note: 2003-2006 Historical data (for Alberta and/or Canada) revised by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

(51) **Violent Crime Rate**
Source: Canadian Crime Statistics, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics
Note: 2003-06 Historical data (for Alberta and/or Canada) revised by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

(52) **Work Stoppages**
Source: Employment and Immigration

(53) **Visitor Satisfaction with Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas**
Source: Tourism, Parks and Recreation, Camper Satisfaction Survey

Sources and Notes

(54) **Participation in Arts Activities or Events**
Source: Banister Research and Consulting Inc., Survey of Albertans

(55) **Visitor Satisfaction with Provincial Historic Sites, Museums and Interpretive Centres**
Source: Culture and Community Spirit, Heritage Facilities Visitor Survey

(56) **Participation in Sport and Recreation**
Source: Research Innovations Inc., Survey of Albertans

(57) **Level of Community Volunteerism**
Source: Banister Research and Consulting Inc., Survey of Albertans

(58) **Public Library Use**
Source: Banister Research and Consulting Inc., Survey of Albertans

(59) **Aboriginal Affairs**
Source: Aboriginal Relations and Environics Research Group Limited: Focus Canada report

(60) **Albertans' Satisfaction with their Local Governments**
Source: Municipal Affairs and Housing – Albertans' Satisfaction with their Municipal Government Survey – Environics Research Group Limited Focus Alberta Omnibus Survey

(61) **Physical Condition of Provincial Highways**
Source: Transportation

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